

WEEK AHEAD

Seven-day details of TV and radio

Vision, the channel hopping guide



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Jane MacQuitty with prospects for 1994

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The new force that will hound the Tories

Julian Critchley, page 14

40P
SATURDAY EDITION

THE TIMES

No. 64,847 SATURDAY JANUARY 8 1994

Insurance shock for victims

Worse floods to come after £60m damage

By Marianne Curphey

■ **With more than 130 rivers in central and southern England close to overflowing, an insurance increase is likely for householders most at risk**

FLOODING in south and central areas of Britain which caused an estimated £60 million damage is expected to get worse this weekend as forecasters said rain and sleet would follow the heavy snowfalls earlier in the week.

Thousands of householders facing a new battle with rising waters, as melting snow and more rain pours into already-swollen rivers, have also been told to expect higher insurance premiums. The rise in the cost of insurance is likely to be charged on any house built close to a river. Norwich Union has announced a detailed ratings system that means higher premiums for homes at risk from flooding and landslips.

People living close to rivers that regularly burst their banks will pay more, while those in the same area but on higher ground will pay less. The average householder pays £187 for cover against flood, storm and subsidence.

The National Rivers Authority has predicted an acute risk of further flooding this weekend. It said that 131 rivers on flood alert were close to overflowing.

Two people died in road accidents directly attributable to the icy conditions. A 27-year-old woman was killed when the car in which she was travelling hit a wall in Wimbledon, south London, and John Giles, 51, of Well End, Hertfordshire, died after the car he was in slid into the Grand Union Canal, in Alperton, northwest London. Another man was pulled free.

Fog and freezing temperatures brought chaos to roads throughout the country last night, and gales worsened conditions in the English Channel and Irish Sea.

Ten lorries jack-knifed on the M25 in Kent causing long delays, and a car which caught fire on the M25 in Essex blocked the motorway in both directions. The Automobile Association said that snow on the Pennines was making driving "extremely hazardous".

The areas worst hit by flooding lie along the upper reaches of the River Thames at Somerford Keynes, Gloucestershire, while an area close to the Blackwater River between Eversley and Aldershot, Hampshire, is on red alert. The Avon in Salisbury is still flooded as is the Ouse near Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire.

Forty people had to leave their homes in Chichester after the Lavant burst its banks for a second time. Pallant House in the area had to remove its collection of works by Sutherland, Moore, Piper, Nicholson and Nash after a well inside the house threatened to overflow.

Exeter is being protected by a £20 million flood defence scheme, diverting 950 million gallons of water per day from the Exe into flood relief channels. Such is the volume of water that one of the channels is being used for the first time in ten years.

Elsewhere the aftermath of heavy rainfall is continuing to cause misery for drivers. The AA said that roads in Cambridgeshire were icy overnight, and would turn to slush today, and in north Bedfordshire floods in the Radwell and Harrold areas made some routes impassable.

In west Wiltshire, the area around the village of Staverton is still badly affected and in Oxfordshire roads in Islip are impassable. Roads in Somerset, Sussex and Gloucestershire are also badly affected.

There was some cheer for householders in other parts of Wiltshire, and in the area around Witney in Oxfordshire, where water levels have begun to recede. Gillian Shephard, the Agriculture Minister, has ruled out the possibility of paying compensation to farmers and individuals suffering financial loss after the severe flooding in the South, but conditions may soon trigger help under the Bellwin scheme which gives local authorities 85 per cent of the cost of clearing up severe flood damage, she said.

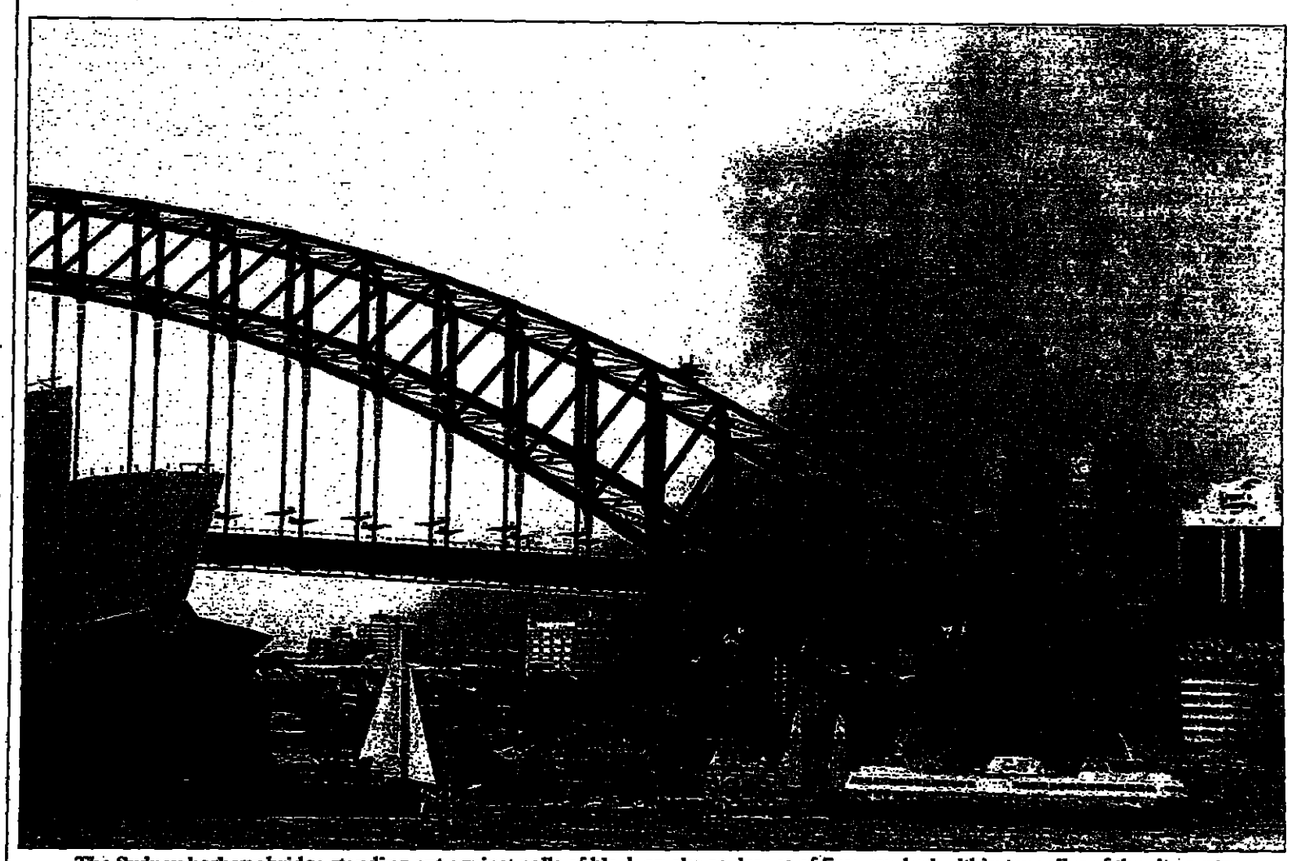
Network SouthEast had to bus passengers between Swindon and Didcot yesterday after earth under a track slipped following heavy rain.

Trains on mainline services to London Paddington were diverted at Bath and arrived at Waterloo station up to an hour later than scheduled. BR routes on low-lying bridges

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Thousands flee Australia's worst blaze for 50 years



The Sydney harbour bridge standing out against palls of black smoke as dozens of fires reached within ten miles of the city centre



A wall of flame cuts through the Royal National Park

Bush fires invade Sydney

From Robert Cockburn in Sydney

SYDNEY skies turned black yesterday as the worst bush fires in 50 years began to savage its suburban homes and consume vast tracts of New South Wales.

Last night homes were ablaze within ten miles of Sydney harbour and the city centre. One quarter of the state is now under threat with temperatures 13C above the high summer average, and the authorities say that 3,000 homes are at risk if the weather does not ease by today. Miraculously, only three people have died so far. A youth is in police custody suspected of deliberately setting at least one fire.

More than 120 fires are burning over 124,000 acres, having spread throughout the week in high winds and soaring temperatures which peaked yesterday at more than 40C. Many thousands of people are being evacuated from their homes.

More than 7,000 volunteer and professional firefighters are stretched to the limit tackling blazes non-stop in difficult mountain terrain and across coastal plains from the Queensland border in the north almost as far as Victoria in the south.

Volunteers are flocking in from neighbouring states to help and the military is also joining the operation. Major roads and railway lines out of Sydney are being closed as the city is ringed by massive walls of fire. These are now consuming homes in the city's exclusive northern residential areas of Turramurra, Tymble, Lindfield and Chatsworth. Flames have jumped what were thought to be secure fire control lines and fire crews say smoke is so thick that they can only work with breathing apparatus. Looting was reported in several areas last night.

The beach lifesavers at nearby Cronulla, south of Sydney, were using their boats to rescue children from holiday camps yesterday and ABC Radio reported last night that a group of people were trapped in one blazing building.

Black Friday, page 12

Nato trip to US for Major

By Michael Evans

JOHN Major has been invited to follow up next week's Nato summit in Brussels with a visit to Washington to see President Clinton. With both leaders in agreement on the right policy for Nato and its relations with Eastern Europe, the visit will help to cement the decisions made at the two-day summit on Monday.

They share the view that Nato cannot yet offer membership to Eastern Europe. The cautious approach was adopted before the emergence of Vladimir Zhirinovsky as an extremist political figure in Russia and President Yeltsin's warning that alliance expansion would isolate Russia, provoke nationalist fury and undermine his reform programme.

Mr Clinton will be bringing to the Brussels summit his proposal for a *Partnership for Peace* with the countries of the former Warsaw Pact.

Nato summit, page 9

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Kidnapping father jailed for 18 months

By Edward Gorman

PETER Malkin, the businessman who abducted his son Oliver from France and took him to Egypt, was sent to jail yesterday for 18 months for contempt of court.

Ignoring pleas even from the boy, 12, who wrote a letter on his father's behalf, Sir Stephen Brown, president of the Family Division, said the courts could not possibly overlook what he called "such gross, calculated and deliberate defiance". The judge told Malkin, 54, who sat in the High Court arm-in-arm with Audrey Donnelly, 45, his girl friend who accompanied him to Egypt: "Your action in abducting the child followed two previous abductions for which you have not suffered a particular penalty but these are matters which cannot be overlooked.

"It is quite plain that you set out on the deliberate course of abducting this child and seeking to take him to a place apparently beyond the reach of this jurisdiction," the judge said. He added the offence was a matter which struck at the very root of the rule of law. Noting that Malkin had finally come back from Egypt on Thursday and allowed his son to be returned to his mother's care at her home in France, he then sentenced him to just six months short of the maximum two years available for a contempt. Mrs Donnelly's case for alleged contempt is to be heard next week. She remains free from custody until then.

Malkin, of Bridge, Kent, wearing a light green woollen suit after spending his first night back in Britain in the cells at Charing Cross police station, broke down when an old friend moved forward from the back of the court to offer him his sympathy. As he was led away to prison, he shouted: "I love Oliver. I wish him the best. Send all my love to Oliver — just my love."

Outside his brother, Peter Malkin, expressed fears for his health in prison and said they would appeal against the sentence. He accused the judge of having ignored the interests of the child by imposing a custodial sentence. "What effect is this going to have on Oliver? I thought they were looking after Oliver's welfare but all they are interested in is Peter's punishment."

During his pre-sentencing remarks the judge did address this point when he referred to a report on the boy by a child psychiatrist who examined him on the instructions of the Official Solicitor during a visit

Continued on page 3, col 5

Yeo 'hammering last few nails into political coffin'



Yeo warned against resignation speech

By Jill Sherman
Political Correspondent

TIM Yeo was given a blunt warning last night by senior Tories to "keep quiet" and to abandon a resignation statement in the Commons to have any chance of salvaging his political career.

The message, which was echoed by senior government officials, followed Mr Yeo's angry attack on Aldine Horrigan, a Tory mayor in his constituency, for her role in his downfall. Mr Yeo, who resigned this week as Environment Minister over his affair with a Tory councillor which produced an illegitimate daughter, said that Mrs Horrigan's letter urging the Prime Minister to sack him had sparked the campaign to oust him. Several senior Tory backbenchers felt yesterday that Mr Yeo was steadily hammering the last few nails into his political coffin. News that he has already given another interview to appear in the *Mail on Sunday* tomorrow astounded MPs.

His outburst in the *Daily Express* against Mrs Horrigan appeared to be hastening his chances of deselection in his Suffolk South constituency. The comments are likely to lead to more calls for Mr Yeo to step down when he goes before a constituency extraordinary meeting next Friday.

His prospects of returning to Government could also be jeopardised. Well-placed government sources made clear that Mr Yeo would do himself few favours if he went ahead with a resignation statement in the Commons next week. Sir Archie Hamilton, the former Defence Minister, said Mr Yeo should be trying to win the confidence of his constituency. "That should be done by building bridges rather than launching an embittered attack on whoever he thinks is responsible for his downfall," Sir Archie said.

In yesterday's *Daily Express*, Mr Yeo denied that he had been a great crusader on the issue of single parents.

Yeo's outburst, and Peter Riddell, page 2
Simon Jenkins and Julian Critchley, page 14
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'It is very carefully considered and needs no clarification'

Sir Patrick turns down Adams on declaration

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Northern Ireland Secretary yesterday rejected Sinn Fein's demand that the Government clarify the Anglo-Irish Declaration of three weeks ago.

At a press conference in Belfast, Sir Patrick Mayhew said the declaration was a carefully considered statement and that clarification would only lead to negotiations.

Sir Patrick said: "It would be a mistake to twist the document. It is very carefully considered, very carefully drafted and lengthy in consequence. It needs no interpretation."

He added: "If you get into the country of interpreting ... you are asked, 'You said this, and doesn't that give rise to another question?' Before you know where you are, you are into the business of negotiations."

Sir Patrick's comments were a clear rebuke to Gerry Adams, the president of Sinn Fein, who announced on Wednesday that he would be writing to Mr Major to demand clarification of the declaration.

Despite Sir Patrick's trenchant tone, observers believe that Mr Major's Ulster peace initiative is being unsettled by Sinn Fein's persistent demand. Leading politicians such as John Hume, the SDLP Leader, Dick Spring, the Irish Deputy Prime Minister, and Lord Callaghan of Cardiff have said that clarification would be helpful.

One SDLP source believes that when Mr Adams talks of clarification he is looking beyond the actual declaration to a timetable for change and a mechanism to bring it about. This was borne out yesterday when a Sinn Fein source said that the party wanted the Government to introduce legislation to recognise the right of the Irish people to national self-determination.

Mr Hume, who has resumed his dialogue with Mr Adams, said yesterday that he would see Mr Major in the next few weeks at Downing Street's request to discuss the declaration. He said the meeting would focus on the attitude of the republican movement to the declaration.

☐ Albert Reynolds, the Irish Prime Minister, will ask the Dail to give a special grant of IR£15,000 to the Linenhall Library in Belfast, which was damaged by an IRA firebomb. A government spokesman said: "The Taoiseach feels that through its promotion of greater knowledge and understanding, the Linenhall had assisted in a very concrete way in healing the divisions among the people of Ireland."

Soldier's funeral, page 6

ALAN LEWIS



Sir Patrick Mayhew between engagements in Northern Ireland yesterday

Auditor unfairly sacked for revealing fraud

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT AND ANGELA MACKAY

A FORMER senior auditor for Hackney council, sacked after exposing the corrupt activities of a council official, was unfairly dismissed, an industrial tribunal ruled yesterday.

Colin Cornelius was sacked after revealing the activities of an official who received hospitality from a firm hoping to win an order. The official also placed an order on behalf of the council for bathroom fittings which did not fit any home owned by the borough.

The Times highlighted Mr Cornelius's case last February.

The tribunal, in Croydon, south London, was told that Mr Cornelius, 34, lost his job after being "stitched up" by council chiefs who wanted to cover up what had happened. Mr Cornelius told *The Times* last year he was convinced that it was his determination to seek a police prosecution that led to his dismissal.

Yesterday he said: "There was corruption in Hackney and because I pointed it out, I was sacked, but I feel the nightmare was worth the effort. Justice has been done."

A check on the misuse of a council vehicle led to the discovery that a stores manager had been wined and dined by a company after he told them he was the council's chief purchasing officer. Further checks revealed he had also sub-let his council flat.

Mr Cornelius discovered that in September 1988 the employee had used a van hired in the council's name to move to Scotland. Mr Cornelius tipped off the man's new local authority employers and when the man submitted false expenses the man was dismissed. He was convicted at Kirkcaldy magistrates court of attempted fraud and "admonished", mainly on the strength of Mr Cornelius's evidence.

According to an internal memorandum seen by *The Times*, a Hackney council subcommittee called for eight separate investigations into matters arising from his findings. None has been made public.

Mr Cornelius was suspended from duty in 1990, accused of breaching the council's disciplinary code. He was fired in July 1992 for gross misconduct after the council claimed he had acted improperly by raising "false and defamatory allegations of fraud and corruption". He appealed unsuccessfully before a panel chaired by a Labour councillor who was later jailed for fraud relating to his expenses claims.

The tribunal found that Mr Cornelius was unfairly dismissed but contributed to his dismissal by the methods he used to expose the affair.

Patten spends £2m on parents' charter

John Patten, the Education Secretary, is spending more than £2 million producing 20 million copies of a new parents' charter. The pamphlets, which will be delivered to every home as part of the Government's back-to-basics initiative, emphasise the role of parental responsibility in a child's education and place parenthood in a moral context.

Mr Patten said in Chester yesterday: "Schools cannot solve society's problems alone. Parents must play their part."

Margaret Morrissey, the spokeswoman for the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations, criticised the cost of the proposal. "The man is mad," she said. "Every parent in the country would want him to spend this money either on nursery education or in our schools." Yeo warned, page 1; Simon Jenkins and Julian Critchley, page 14; Leading article, page 15.

Scott report delayed

Delays by Whitehall civil servants have put back the Scott enquiry by a further three months. Lord Justice Scott will now be unable to finish writing his report until July, six months after the date he set himself when he was appointed to the enquiry into the arms-to-Iraq affair in November 1992. The judge's complaint came in a progress report on the enquiry sent to Mr Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade. Late submission of documents by departments had created unnecessary burdens, he said.

Drunken man shot dead

A Scottish businessman was shot dead after apparently being mistaken for a burglar when he banged on the door of a house in Houston, Texas, early yesterday. The man, who has not been identified, had been out drinking when he and a companion found themselves in a middle-class area at 4am. A police spokesman said the men, who were "highly intoxicated", knocked on a number of doors to seek help in calling a taxi. One householder apparently thought he was being robbed and opened fire through the door.

More holiday bargains

The travel agent Lunn Poly's announcement yesterday that its discounts will continue this month has dashed rivals' hopes of a truce in the holiday price war. Thomas Cook and Going Places are also continuing the sale. Reductions of about 11 per cent were first due to end on January 3. Other firms will follow suit or risk being forced out of business.

Housing market boom

Estate agents are reporting a surge in the number of new home-buyers in the first week of this year keen to snap up bargains before the price rises forecast by property experts. Last week, the Halifax building society predicted a 5 per cent rise and Savills, the estate agent, has forecast a 19 per cent rise. Mortgage delays, page 23

Policewoman found safe



WPC Diane Mostyn, 28, left, who vanished after leaving her eight-month-old son at Central Middlesex Hospital, northwest London, was found safe but dishevelled yesterday at Bamber Bridge near Preston, Lancashire, not far from her parents' home. She was reunited with her husband Paul, a constable in the Metropolitan police, who broadcast an appeal for help from the public in funding her.

Defendant's close call

A defendant was warned by Gloucester magistrates that he was in contempt of court and risked jail when his mobile telephone rang in the dock. Christopher Pankhurst, of Hardwicke, Gloucestershire, who was facing a charge of handling stolen goods, answered the call and hissed: "I can't talk now — I'm in the dock." His case was adjourned.

Yeo's bitter outburst fuels local hostility

BY ANDREW PIERCE

■ Conservative officials in Suffolk South are rallying to the support of Tim Yeo's leading critic in the constituency

TIM Yeo's precarious grasp on his parliamentary career was weakened further after he made an extraordinary public attack on the leading critic in his constituency.

Even some of Mr Yeo's most ardent supporters were taken aback by the tone of his comments, published yesterday in the *Daily Express*, about Aldine Horrigan, the Tory mayor who wrote to John Major demanding that Mr Yeo resign his ministerial post.

As the Tory leadership tried to draw a line under the affair, Mr Yeo sparked a backlash in the constituency by disclosing the extent of his feelings of betrayal. He said: "When I think of what I have done for her [Mrs Horrigan]. I have campaigned for her in local government elections and I rescued her husband's business when it was in receivership."

His attack on the 59-year-old grandmother provoked a wave of anger in the Suffolk South constituency. It is likely to lead to more calls for Mr Yeo to resign when he goes before an extraordinary meeting of the constituency party next Friday.

Officials at Conservative Central Office have appealed for calm in the constituency and urged members to refrain from public comment.

Mrs Horrigan, mayor of Haverhill, declined to be drawn into a "public slanging match". She was the force behind Mr Yeo's surprise selection as candidate for Suffolk South weeks before the 1983 general election, but told *The Times* that she "had no regrets over her role" in his downfall.

Her husband Tom is denying that the former environment minister saved his company, Parkway Metalcrafts, which made ducting for heating and ventilation systems. He said: "He was sympathetic to our position but he was unable to help."

Colin Spalding, chairman of Haverhill Conservatives, which was the first branch to say it could not support him as an MP at the next election, came to Mrs Horrigan's defence last night and accused Mr Yeo of endangering any remaining grass-roots support that he had.

"I did hear a statement when he made his resignation speech that he intended to go back to his constituency and rebuild bridges. Well, if he is going to attack Mrs Horrigan personally, that's his first bridge blown sky high," Mr Spalding said.

Michael Richards, a fellow town councillor, said: "He cannot blame Mrs Horrigan, he has brought about his own downfall."

Brian Tooke, a retired company director who is president of the constituency association, thought Mrs Horrigan's letter to the Prime Minister had been a "kneejerk reaction. The outcome would have been no different at the end of the day because of our statement, which reflected wider opinion in the constituency."

Tony Allen, Mr Yeo's former agent and a friend, was surprised by the MP's comments. "They have not helped his case," he said.

There was support for Mr Yeo from other Tories, including Graham Downing, treasurer of the Mayland and Wissington branch. He said: "There is a moral righteousness in South Suffolk Conservative Association which I find objectionable. MPs are subject to a great deal of pressure and we are all human."

Keep quiet warning, page 1
Simon Jenkins and Julian Critchley, page 14

Only sackcloth and silence will satisfy moral majority

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Tim Yeo seems set on destroying what remains of his political career. He is violating the two cardinal rules for any minister who has been forced to resign: keep silent and do not alienate your constituency.

Few ex-ministers stage a successful comeback. Their errors of judgment are not easily forgotten and others are always willing to take their places. Rehabilitation only comes to those who publicly accept that they have erred and spend time out of the limelight behaving themselves. The British public, and press, always likes a bit of self-flagellation.

Cecil Parkinson is the most prominent ex-minister to return to high office. After his dramatic resignation in October 1983, he stayed out of the public eye for the rest of that parliament. Despite her inclinations, Margaret Thatcher accepted the advice of John Wakeham, her Chief Whip, that he should not return to the Government until after the following election when his constituency had given its verdict. Even when he rejoined the Cabinet in 1987, he never had the influence of his 1981-83 period.

In other cases, ex-ministers have regained public respect through careers outside politics: John Profumo via his charitable work and Lord Jellicoe in the business world.

David Mellor has not adopted a low profile. He has become a successful media pundit on the arts and sport but that is not the behaviour of someone earnestly trying to work their way back. Nobody expects him to make an early Cabinet return. Mr Mellor's unusually informal resignation statement did him little good in the eyes of colleagues.

Few ex-ministers have profited from resignation statements. Geoffrey Howe's was the most memorable in November 1990 since it precipitated the downfall of the Prime Minister, but it brought him no immediate reward. Norman Lamont was advised by his friends not to make his biting statement last June. He captured the headlines with his comment about the Government appearing to be "in office, but not in power" but it helped to isolate him. Michael Mates also reinforced, rather than removed, the doubts about his judgment with his tense resignation statement.

Similarly, it is hard to see how Mr Yeo can benefit from making a statement when the Commons returns next week. The cause of his downfall was, as he has argued, entirely personal and nothing to do with his duties as a minister. Any statement will probably be embarassing for him and the House and is certain to remind everyone of his bad behaviour. No wonder Tory MPs were yesterday united in urging him to be silent.

Even more damaging in the long-term may be his comments quoted in the *Daily Express* yesterday, together with his intention to give an interview to the *Mail on Sunday* tomorrow. Not only will all this keep the affair going, but he is reported to have criticised Aldine Horrigan, his most prominent local opponent. Judging by her frequent television appearances over the past week, Mrs Horrigan obviously takes her job very seriously — as shown by her tendency to wear her mayoral chain when talking about matters nothing to do with her office.

But local politics is full of tiresome people like Mrs Horrigan. They do the work and it is an MP's job to keep them content and supportive. Mr Yeo has obviously failed to do that. His arrogance and hypocrisy lost him his ministerial job. It may cost him his seat in the Commons.

PETER RIDDELL

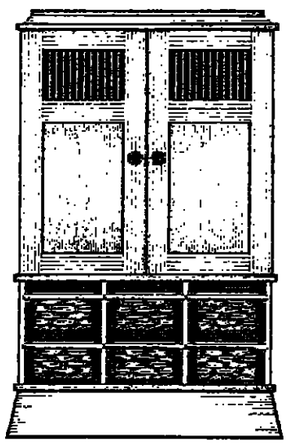


Parkinson: eventually returned to high office



Mellor: took on a new role as media pundit

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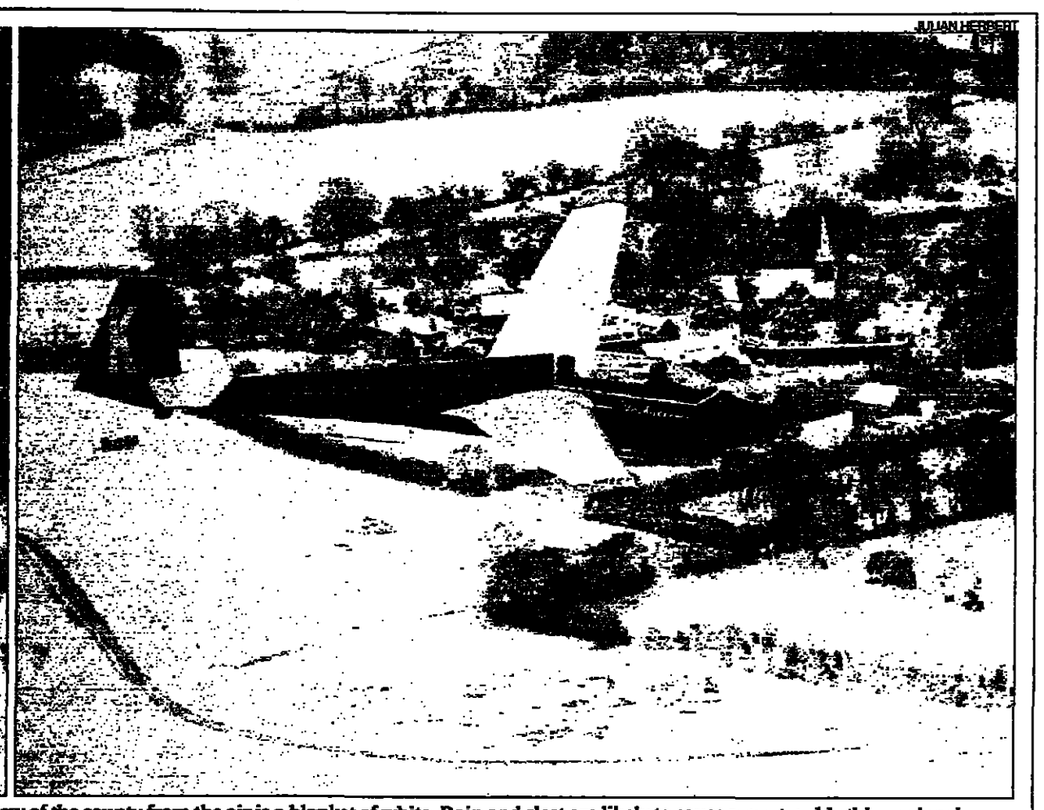
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JULIAN HERBERT

A couple struggling to push their car out of snow on the A31 near Alton in Hampshire yesterday, while the view of the county from the air is a blanket of white. Rain and sleet are likely to cause more trouble this weekend

Weather wreaks death and destruction across Europe

Continued from page 1

at Looe, Cornwall, and Barnstaple, Devon, were suspended while divers checked water damage, and on the Cambrian line between Shrewsbury and Aberystwyth a bridge at Welshpool was damaged by rising levels in the Severn.

Police on the Isle of Wight said roads were now passable with care after hundreds of people had been stranded on Thursday due to the heaviest snowfalls on the island in ten years.

Seven schools on the island were closed, as were many throughout southern England.

☐ Several people were killed as blizzards, high winds and torrential rain lashed western Europe. There was havoc on the roads and seas, and dozens of people were forced to flee their homes.

A 12-year-old boy was swept away in southeast France yesterday when a rain-swollen river carried off his mother's car. The mother managed to escape but the boy was feared drowned.

If confirmed, his death would be the seventh attributed to the severe weather which has hit much of France since before Christmas.

In Portugal, high winds whipped the Atlantic into waves up to 16ft high, closing many ports and forcing the crew of an Italian gas carrier to abandon ship in the Straits of Gibraltar.

All 17 crew members were rescued but officials said the ship, which was abandoned when water flooded the engine room, might have sunk.

Snow fell as far south as Andalusia in Spain and the Algarve in Portugal; avalanches closed roads in the Italian Alps and warnings of snowslides were issued in the Pyrenees on the border between France and Spain.

In Lisbon, high winds brought down a circus tent. The 6,500ft high Serra de Estrela mountain range in central Portugal was covered with snow, and many roads were blocked.

In southwestern France, many towns remained under water and rain fell on the Atlantic port of Bordeaux for the 28th consecutive day. The city has received more than one third of its average annual rainfall in the past month.

Roads in southeastern France were closed and authorities urged people to stay at home and drink only bottled water.

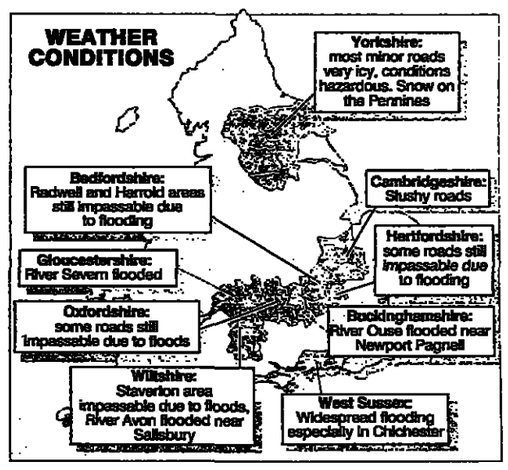
The storms reached North Africa where winds lashed Morocco's northwestern coast from Rabat to Tangier. At least two people were killed when a palm tree crashed on to their car, and 20 were injured.

In Austria, the problem was not the cold. Unseasonably warm winds ripped off roof tiles and blew down power lines. Ski-lifts were halted and roads were blocked by fallen trees and power pylons. The Austria Cup snowboarding championships scheduled for See in the Tirol had to be cancelled. In the Wilden Kaiser mountain range, a 20-year-old German escaped with a broken leg after being swept away by an avalanche.

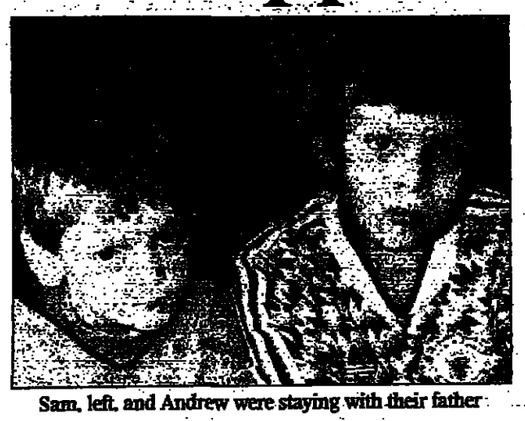
In the German tourist towns of Zell and Cochem on the Moselle, people again paddled boats through streets that were flooded for the third time since early December.

The Rhine was closed to commercial shipping from Koblenz to Cologne, as was the Moselle from the French border to Koblenz.

Under the weather, page 7
Leading article, page 15
Forecast, page 18
Sport hit, page 36



Police alert ports as man disappears with sons



Sam, left, and Andrew were staying with their father

By Edward Gorman

A NATIONWIDE search is under way for a father who failed to return his young sons to their mother and might have taken them abroad.

Ian Sharp, 41, an unemployed labourer, has not been seen since he failed to return the boys Andrew, 8, and Sam, 6, to his former partner's home near Cardiff on Monday.

South Wales police have alerted forces across the country and at air and sea ports. Relatives of the family in London have also been contacted.

Chief Insp Viv Baldwin, who is leading the hunt, said: "It is possible that he intends to take the boys abroad and we have circulated their descriptions to airports. We are anxious to trace Mr Sharp so that we can assure ourselves that the children are safe and well."

Last night the boys' mother, Nicola Saunders, 32, of Creigiau, said she was very concerned for their safety and was glad that the media had taken up the case.

She said she raised the alarm after Mr Sharp, of Splott, Cardiff, failed to return the children after an extended vist to him over the new year. Ms Saunders described her former partner, with whom she split up after nine years in October 1992, as unstable and unpredictable.

"I don't know where they are," she said. "I'm glad at last it's going out to the press because at least then he won't be able to move them if he's in this country," she added.

Ms Saunders said Mr Sharp had gone off with the boys once before in October 1992 when he took them to London on an unauthorised trip that lasted ten days. Police were alerted and they were safely returned. After that, she had gone to court where she gained sole care and control of her sons while Mr Sharp was granted reasonable access. He had been seeing them once during the week and on Saturdays and Sundays.

Ms Saunders added that at the time of the hearing Mr Sharp was warned by magistrates that he could face imprisonment if he again attempted to go off with the children.

Her fears that he may have gone abroad have been heightened because she believes Mr Sharp now has about £8,000 on him from the sale of their former home. He also has the boys' names listed in his passport. Ms Saunders also says she cannot find their birth certificates.

Mr Sharp is described as 5ft 9in tall with copper brown bushy hair and glasses. Andrew is 4ft 3in and has light brown hair, blue eyes and is quite chubby. Sam is slimmer, 3ft 6in, with sandy hair.

Ms Saunders said Mr Sharp has a variety of the boys' clothes with him.

Father jailed, page 1



Ian Sharp: did not return sons to their mother

Malkin is faced with bill for £100,000

Continued from page 1

to France last summer. He had described the boy as "sensitive, vulnerable and needy — colloquially, in a mess".

Costs were awarded against Malkin, who has also to pay costs for hearings in his absence when sequestration orders were made against his assets, including his home near Canterbury and a hotel in Devon. His barrister said his bill, including the costs of the sequestration now suspended, was close to £100,000.

Peter Jackson, for Malkin, said his client admitted the contempt. But he argued that a final decision on the case should not be taken until a hearing scheduled for February 7 when Malkin is due to apply for care of his son or, alternatively, right of reasonable access.

Mr Jackson described Malkin as a warm-hearted and generous man who could also be obstinate and impetuous. He said an otherwise respectable and law-abiding individual had allowed his strong emotions for his son and his frustration at not being able to see him, to get the better of him.

After the hearing the Official Solicitor conveyed the judge's gratitude to the media for helping in the search for the boy by giving the case massive publicity. But he also asked that Oliver Malkin now be left alone. "It is very important for Oliver's well-being that he and his family should be left in peace to resume a normal family life in France," he said.

☐ Malkin is under a summons to appear in court on January 31 in the Breton city of Lorient for the kidnapping near his mother's home. If convicted, France could seek his extradition.

Young drivers learn the art of lower insurance bills

By Tim Jones, Transport Correspondent

YOUNG drivers are to be offered lower insurance premiums if they agree to pay for additional tuition after passing the driving test.

The voluntary scheme, which will be announced next month by John MacGregor, the Transport Secretary, is part of the Government's drive to tackle the destruction caused by aggressive, overconfident young motorists.

Drivers in the 17 to 21 age group represent 10 per cent of licence holders but are involved in 20 per cent of accidents. Each year in Britain, more than a thousand people die in incidents involving at least one young driver.

One transport source said yesterday: "The trouble is that many of them are over confident and think they are Nigel Mansell. Once people have passed their test, they need to learn to drive properly. Bascially, they have to be taught in no uncertain terms that misused, a car is a potentially lethal weapon."

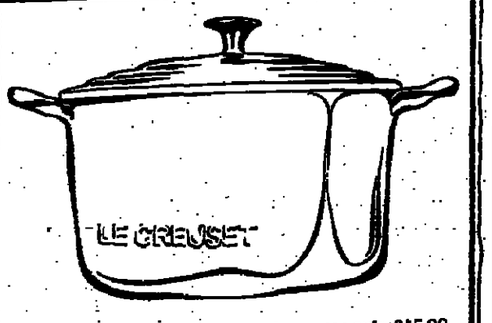
The five-hour courses would involve aspects of driving not covered by the test, such as motorway driving, driving in hazardous conditions and at night.

Although the additional course would cost up to £150, some insurance companies have indicated they are willing to offer discounts of £200 or more to young motorists who volunteer. Premiums of up to £1,000 are not unusual for newly qualified young people.

Furthermore, young drivers who have not taken the additional driving tuition could be stripped of their licences if they commit certain traffic offences within two years of passing the test and be forced to take a much tougher test before being allowed back on the roads.

Motoring organisations and road safety campaigners have for some time criticised the present driving test because it enables young motorists who have just passed the test to drive at high speeds on motorways from which they are banned while learning.

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QC backs Ambridge One

By Alan Hamilton

THE Ambridge One, jailed for six months for conspiring to pervert the course of justice, should not have spent one night behind bars, an eminent barrister said yesterday.

Anthony Scrivener QC, a former chairman of the Bar, was concerned that Susan Carter, the fictional character whose sentence is the talking-point of BBC Radio 4's *The Archers*, had been ill served by her counsel. The script had her sent down before Christmas for helping her brother evade police after his part in an armed robbery.

Carter's legal advisers should have applied for bail as soon as sentence was passed, Mr Scrivener said. They could then have applied for an appeal hearing on the ground that her sentence was inappropriate. "I have had many clients sentenced on a Monday, applied for immediate bail, and had them before the Court of Appeal by Wednesday. The storyline suggests Susan Carter will be out before an appeal can be heard. That is unfair to the judicial system."

When it was suggested to Mr Scrivener that Carter could in any case probably not have afforded a barrister of his calibre, he said: "Nonsense. In a case like hers, with Christmas coming up and two children left in the care of their father, she would have had no trouble finding a member of the Bar to represent her at appeal for nothing. Had she been on legal aid, she would have been covered for an appeal."

Posters demanding the release of Carter, originally issued by a pressure group in Kent, have now appeared in Yorkshire.

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Experts seek the public's view on 'womb-robbing'

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

■ **Consultation has been rushed ahead because of concern about a technique that may evoke "instinctive repugnance"**

THE use of aborted foetuses to provide eggs for infertile women caused "unease, distaste and surprise" when it was first proposed to the authority that licenses infertility clinics in Britain, its chairman said yesterday.

Professor Sir Colin Campbell said members of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority had been "impressed by what science could do but worried at the implications" when they learnt of the technique 20 months ago. But they had tried to move from an emotional response to a calmer, more reflective one, he said.

Launching a consultation document, Professor Campbell said people had to consider what the treatment would mean for any child born as a result of it and whether "our ability to manipulate the reproductive process is going beyond what is acceptable".

Critics have described the procedure as womb-robbing and creating babies from the dead. One specialist said it could cause a crisis of identity in children conceived by the method.

The issue is the most controversial to confront the authority in the three years since it was established. The document says it is a matter of "considerable sensitivity" and the public "may feel an instinctive repugnance".

The technique involves taking immature eggs from foetuses or from dead bodies and growing them in the laboratory before fertilisation and implantation in a womb. Also, tissue from foetal ovaries may be grafted onto non-functioning adult ovaries. The ovaries of a foetus contain all the eggs to be produced in adulthood.

The 15-page consultation paper has been rushed out in response to public concern that science is racing ahead of the law. Professor Campbell said the aim of the authority was to keep the science, the ethics and the law running in parallel.

"This area of scientific advance is of fundamental concern to everybody here and across the world. We want the public to express their views before we come to any decision," he said.

The British Medical Association's ethics committee is expected to sanction the procedure at its meeting next month. It is understood to feel uncomfortable with the technique but does not believe it to be unethical.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, however, will have the final say on whether the procedure is to be used.

Pressure for its introduction has arisen because of the shortage of donated eggs. Infertility clinics report a three-year waiting list involving "probably thousands" of women who need donor eggs, Flora Goldhill, the authority's chief executive, said.

It will be at least three years before the technique is perfected for use in humans. "No one need worry that this is going to happen next week," Professor Campbell said. "We are planning for what may happen in three years time."

The authority is to explore other possible sources of eggs, such as from women undergoing sterilisation or hysterectomy. But this would raise similar ethical issues and women would need sensitive counselling, Professor Campbell said.

The consultation period will last six months. The authority is due to publish a response in the autumn when it will rule whether the procedure, once developed, can be used in licensed fertility clinics.

Leading article and letters, page 15

SIMON WALKER



Professor Sir Colin Campbell will be listening to the public before deciding whether to license the new method

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BARCLAYS

Baby killed by electric shock from toaster

BY EMMA WILKINS

A BOY aged 15 months was electrocuted when he put his hand inside a toaster. Daniel Ward, from Warwick, is believed to have pushed a knife into the toaster. He suffered burns to his hand and knee and collapsed on the kitchen floor.

His mother Rowan, who found him seconds after the accident on Thursday evening, carried him to a neighbour's house and called an ambulance. He was taken to South Warwickshire Hospital but doctors were unable to revive him.

Daniel's father James, who was away from home working overnight, was told of his son's death yesterday.

The toaster and the electrical wiring at the Wards' house is being examined by East Midlands Electricity, at the request of Warwickshire police.

Insp Fred Tebbs, leading the enquiry, said Mr and Mrs Ward, who have a four-year-old daughter, Charlotte, were suffering from deep shock. "The little boy managed to reach up to a toaster which was plugged into a live socket, but not actually in use at the time," he said.

"We believe he may have been playing at being the postman and was trying to post something — possibly a knife — into the toaster. The circuit was completed and he suffered burns to his right hand and left knee before collapsing. We think he may have been leaning against a metal sink at the time."

Insp Tebbs said the death appeared to be a tragic accident. "This serves to highlight the fears of so many parents that you've only to take your eyes off toddlers for a second and some terrible accident will happen. There are no suspicious circumstances."

A post-mortem examination was carried out yesterday and the inquest will be held next week. East Midlands Electricity said a report had been sent to police, but declined to say whether any faults were discovered.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dowager to stand trial in race case

Lady Jane Birdwood, 80, a former election candidate for the British National Party, of Acton, west London, has been committed to stand trial at the Old Bailey on two counts of inciting racial hatred under the Public Order Act. The charges relate to a booklet she wrote entitled *The Longest Hatred*, which is considered anti-Semitic and intended to stir up race riots.

Lady Birdwood denied the charges at a committal hearing at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, central London. She claimed the charges were unfounded because Judaism constituted a religion, not a race, and Jews were not part of an ethnic minority.

Yellow peril

Bus drivers who park on double yellow lines while changing crews in Walsall town centre, West Midlands, have been given £20 tickets by traffic wardens.

Hospital bug

Two patients at the London Chest Hospital in Bethnal Green, east London, have been taken ill with salmonella poisoning.

Writer better

Dame Catherine Cookson, 87, below, the novelist who is recovering after a colon operation, said: "I was convinced I would never see Christmas." Paying tribute to staff at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, she said: "Through them, I live to write another day."



Cancer drug heralds new Aids treatment

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

SCIENTISTS working in the Outer Hebrides have produced a drug which they believe could lead to a new approach in the treatment of Aids.

Lithium Gammalinolenate, known as EFI3, is produced by the Surrey-based company Scotia Pharmaceuticals at its plant at Callanish on the island of Lewis.

Researchers from St Bartholomew's Hospital in London have studied the drug and early results show that it is effective in killing HIV-infected white blood cells.

The studies are at a very early stage and EFI3, which was originally developed for the treatment of cancer of the pancreas, is still at the experimental phase.

Dr David Horrobin, chief executive of Scotia, said it would be two to three years before the drug was tested on humans. In vitro trials had shown that EFI3 was able to kill cancer cells without harming normal tissue, so the scientists thought it might do the same to HIV-infected white blood cells.

"The study showed that EFI3 did have just this effect," he said. In addition, normal human white blood cells exposed to EFI3 became resistant to infection by HIV.

He added: "Most of the current experimental drugs for HIV concentrate on slowing down the rate of growth of the virus. This drug actually destroys the reservoirs of HIV-infected cells. Scientifically it is exciting, but medically we have to be extremely cautious."

Publishers join queue for stake in Independent

■ Mirror Group Newspapers has emerged as favourite among six groups interested in rescuing Fleet Street's ailing broadsheet

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

AT LEAST six major publishing groups have signed confidentiality agreements with Newspaper Publishing, owner of *The Independent* and *The Independent on Sunday*, signalling their intention to bid for a stake in the financially troubled company.

Mirror Group Newspapers has emerged as the front-runner to take part in a rescue package for the titles in partnership with Andreas Whittam Smith, founder editor of *The Independent*. David Montgomery, Mirror chief executive, however, is also in talks with the main board of Newspaper Publishing, which is drawing up alternative financial restructuring plans for the company. The board has already received one formal, written offer from a publishing group — believed to be Tony O'Reilly's Irish Independent Newspapers — as well as a number of telephone offers from other press organisations.



Whittam Smith: to publish rescue plan

The bids for a stake in the company are believed to vary widely, valuing it between £40 million and £80 million.

The Daily Telegraph Group, Associated Newspapers, publisher of the *Daily Mail*, and United Newspapers, which owns the *Daily Express*, have all signed confidentiality agreements with Newspaper Publishing in the past few days to give them access to the company's financial details. Mr Whittam Smith, who is also a shareholder in Newspaper Publishing, is poised to publish details of his rescue package next week. It will transfer ownership of the two Independent newspapers to a new holding company, granting the Mirror Group — or an alternative Fleet Street publisher — a 25 to 40 per cent stake.



Montgomery: in talks with board

Under the deal, the two main present shareholders of Newspaper Publishing, *El Pais* of Spain and Italy's *La Repubblica*, would jointly own about 50 per cent of the new company.

The remaining institutional shareholders in Newspaper Publishing are likely to be offered cash or shares for their holding by the new company. Although there is considerable momentum for a swift settlement of the long-simmering problems at the Independent newspapers, any single rescue package is unlikely to be considered by the full board of Newspaper Publishing, which is scheduled to meet next on January 27, before a number of alternative, firm offers have been received.

The outcome is by no means certain. Newspaper deals are notoriously unpredictable and subject to a degree of personal and emotional factors unheard of in other industries. Mr Montgomery has already indicated his intention to diversify the Mirror's interests into new media markets, such as cable or satellite television. A stake in a broadsheet newspaper would create new opportunities for cross-promotion of the company's products and may also help increase its kudos.

An alliance between *The Independent* and *Daily Mirror* titles would reduce the unit costs of all their publications. It would provide the two companies with shared office space at the Mirror's new premises in Canary Wharf, east London, and joint printing, distribution and backroom facilities. As the Independent and Mirror titles have distinct target markets, such a deal would be less likely to raise complications from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission than one with another broadsheet publisher, such as the Daily Telegraph Group. Although Mr Montgomery has helped to restore the financial fortune of the Mirror Group, it remains unclear whether he has the editorial and management acumen necessary to help to revive a broadsheet newspaper publisher.

Conrad Black, chairman of the Daily Telegraph Group, however, does have an established track record in this field.

Under his control, *The Daily Telegraph* has remained one of Britain's most successful newspapers with weekday sales of more than one million.



SIMON WALKER

Sam Holland, assistant at Charbonnel et Walker, where there is increasing interest in quality chocolates

Chocoholics seek love at first bite on quality street

BY KATE ALDERSON

AFTER a bumper Christmas for sales of confectionery, up by 10 per cent, Britons' tastebuds are hankering after high-quality designer chocolate.

Britons spent an unprecedented £3 billion on chocolate last year, according to research released by Cadbury yesterday, making the nation the fourth largest consumer of the product worldwide. The Netherlands heads the list, closely followed by Denmark. The United States languishes in twelfth place.

Chocolate has become one of the few affordable luxuries, Cadbury said. "While cautious spending was still evident in other market sectors, consumers were not only continuing to indulge in their favourite chocolate sweets but actually bought more than ever before," a spokesman said.

The Chocolate Society, based in Otley, West Yorkshire, has 3,000 members worldwide who support the notion of a high-quality product. Nicola Porter, its director, said: "More and more people are looking for a different type of chocolate with a good taste, not just sugary. They are increasingly keen on the quality chocolates which have a cocoa solid content of between 50 and 85 per cent." Ordinary chocolate bars have a cocoa solid content of about 22 per cent.

Betty Foxton-Morris, manager of Charbonnel et Walker's store in Bond Street, central London, said novices and experts alike were showing increasing interest in quality. Its chocolates sell for £16 a pound and £18 for a pound of truffles.

Chantal Coady, owner of Rococo chocolate shop in Chelsea, west London, was a founding member of the Chocolate Society three years ago. "I have been campaigning for a quality product for a few years now and it appears to be working. We are selling twice as much now as we did six months ago."

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'Wretched' driver gets six months

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A MAN described as Britain's worst driver was jailed for six months yesterday for his 36th offence of driving while disqualified.

Jeremy Smith, 30, who last year had a 30-year driving ban cut to 15 years, was stopped as he drove through Leicester in November.

Yesterday his solicitor, who once said that Smith was the country's "worst and most wretched driver" pleaded for leniency. Oliver D'Sa told Leceister magistrates: "I accept my client has a shocking and deplorable driving record, but his last offence was in December 1992 — he has thus been out of trouble for a year. At the time of this latest offence he was stone-cold sober, a remarkable achievement, and did only drive a very short distance."

The court decided, however, that Smith had disregarded his last chance. When his driving ban, imposed for a 14th drink-driving offence, was halved he also had a six-month jail term quashed.

Smith, of Leicester, admitted driving while disqualified and without insurance. The court ordered that the 1978 Ford Granada that he was driving be forfeited.

Catholics back politically correct style of catechism

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

■ Disputes over contemporary English have moved beyond the catechism to the liturgy of the Roman Catholic Church

LEADING Roman Catholics in Britain last night defended the English translation of the first new catechism for more than 400 years, and urged the Vatican to allow the politically correct language to stay.

Bishop David Konstant of Leeds, the only Briton on the international team of experts who compiled the catechism, said: "The concern of the translators of the catechism has been to translate the text into good contemporary English. One feature of contemporary English is the use of inclusive language when both men and women are intended. The translators have, by and large, abided by this usage."

He said the English text was at its final editing stage in Rome and was intended to be with the publisher by the end of the month.

The argument has moved beyond the catechism and to the liturgy of the church itself, which is being revised. Theologians in Britain and America want the phrase "fully human" or "truly human" to replace "man" in the Nicene Creed. At present it says: "He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man."

Britain's five million Catholics have had to wait for the catechism, published in its original French form in 1992, because of the debate. The Vatican has been unable to decide what, if anything, should replace "man". In a draft leaked to *The Times*, the translators have where possible used human, people and everyone instead of man. The translation at present retains the description of Christ as a man in the creed, but refers to him as human in the ensuing discussion. If no agreement is reached, the catechism is likely to retain the original word "man" in the creed, angering the politically correct lobby in America which wants inclusive language throughout.


Konstant: translators used modern English

Sister Cecily Boulding, a Dominican, who was a member of the translation committee made up of three British and three American theologians, said: "The catechism is not refusing to call Christ a man. But where it quotes the creed, the church wants to use whatever is going to be in the present translation of the creed. This is being revised.

"It is an excellent translation. A large part of the English-speaking world has become sensitive to the use of exclusive language. Since it is common in most other walks of life to make sure we use inclusive language, it was felt the church should also make this point."

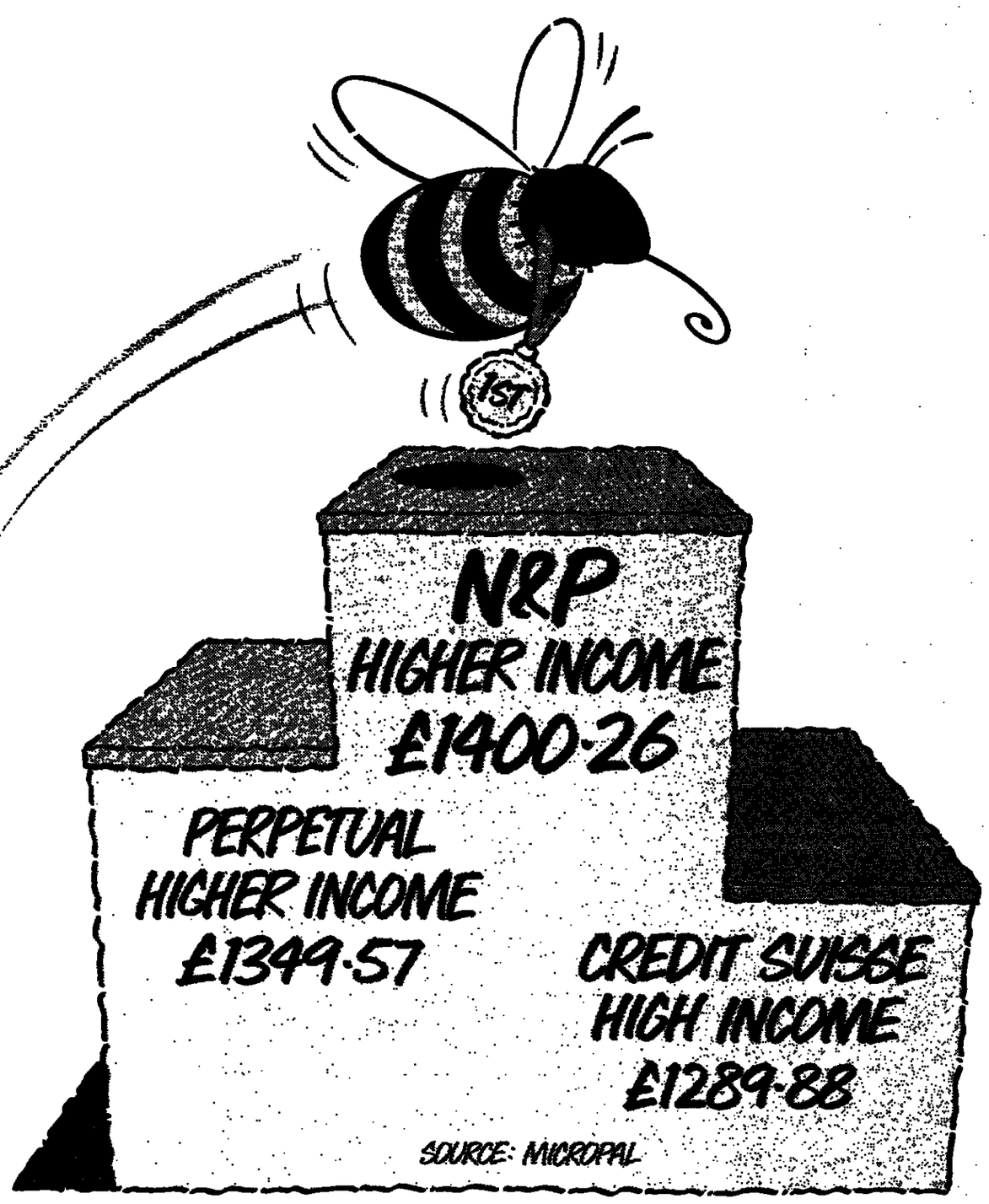
Sister Boulding, a lecturer in theology at Ushaw College, Durham, a seminary and theological research centre, said the Vatican was not refusing to call Christ "human", but was refusing to sanction truly human or fully human until the consultation process was complete.

Fr David McLoughlin, lecturer in theology at Oscott College, the Birmingham diocesan seminary, who was involved in the consultation process, said: "You cannot produce a document like this without an attempt at broad inclusivity." But he said the Vatican was concerned about "imposing on the rest of the English-speaking world an American agenda on this whole question of inclusive language".

Credo, page 8
Letters, page 15
At Your Service, Weekend page 10


Colleagues of Daniel Blinco, 22, the Grenadier guardsman killed by an IRA sniper in Armagh last week, carrying his coffin yesterday to the church of St Michael and St Mary in Melbourne, Derbyshire. He was the first soldier to be killed in Northern Ireland since the Downing Street declaration

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Duck hunters stalk a ruddy nuisance

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

SHOOTING and trapping of ruddy ducks will begin next week in a two-month experiment to find the best way of controlling a bird that has become an international menace to wildfowl conservation.

Colin Galbraith, chairman of the ruddy duck working group, representing a dozen national and international conservation bodies, said: "We all now recognise that there is an urgent need to stop and reverse the spread of ruddy ducks across Europe."

The ruddy duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) is spreading from Britain towards the main breeding grounds of the much rarer white-headed duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*) in the south of the former Soviet Union. Conservationists fear that inter-breeding between the two could lead to the extinction of the latter.

The threat to the white-headed duck is a salutary lesson in the dangers of importing non-native species. The late Sir Peter Scott imported three pairs of ruddy ducks from North America to take part in a captive breeding programme at Slimbridge in Gloucestershire in 1948. Some of the birds escaped, established themselves and began breeding. There are now an estimated 3,500 ruddy ducks at large in Britain and the population is growing at a rate of about 8 per cent a year.

☐ Animal rights activists are lobbying Glasgow City Council in an attempt to prevent a seagull cull after complaints by residents that they are being kept awake and dive-bombed by the birds.

John Robins, of Animal Concern, has asked the council not to use drugged bait. He said the doped birds would fall from the sky on to the heads of pedestrians and into the path of traffic.


The ruddy duck's success threatens related species

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Nunn pareil

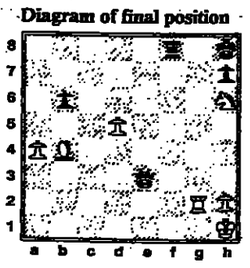
The London grandmaster Dr John Nunn fought through to one of the best results of his career by outright victory in the Hastings Premier tournament, Britain's strongest all-play-all competition. He needed to resist the challenge in the last round from his only close rival, Mikhail Krasenkov. This Nunn achieved, forcing a draw after 47 moves.

White: Mikhail Krasenkov
Black: John Nunn
Hastings Premier, December 1993-January 1994
Grunfeld Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	g6
3	Nf3	Bg7
4	g3	c6
5	Bg2	d5
6	cxd5	cxd5
7	Nc3	0-0
8	Ne5	e6
9	0-0	Nfd7
10	f4	f6
11	Nd3	Nc6
12	e3	f5
13	Qe2	Nf8
14	b3	Re8
15	a4	Bd7
16	Ba3	Ne4
17	Bxe4	dxe4
18	Ne5	Ne7
19	Nc4	Bc6
20	Nd6	Rf8
21	g4	Nd5
22	Nxd5	exd5
23	b4	a6
24	b5	axb5
25	Nxb5	Rf7
26	Bc5	bxg4
27	Qxg4	Bd7
28	Qe2	b6
29	Bb4	g5
30	Nd6	Rf6
31	Qa2	gxd4
32	Qxd5+	Be6
33	Qxe4	Rg6+
34	Kh1	fxe3
35	Rg1	Ra5
36	Rxg6	Bd5
37	Re6	Bxe4+
38	Rxe4	Re8
39	Rg1	Qf6
40	Rxe3	Kh8
41	d5	Qd4
42	Nf7+	Kg8
43	Nh6+	Kh8
44	Nf7+	Kg8
45	Nh6+	Kh8
46	Rxg7	Qxe3
47	Rg2	Rf8

Draw agreed

Diagram of final position



After 48 Bxf8 Black obtains a perpetual check draw with 48 ... Qe1+ 49 Rg1 Qe4+ 50 Rg2 Qe1+

Hastings challengers

The Hastings challengers event was won by Miron Sher of Russia, who scored 7½ points from 9 and emerged in clear first place. Colin McNab of Scotland was second with 7 and both players have obtained the qualification places for next year's Premier event.

Winning Move, page 36

Hastings Final Crosstable		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	Tot
1 J Nunn	England	*	+	1	1	+	1	+	+	1	1	7
2 M Krasenkov	Russia	-	*	1	+	1	1	+	1	+	+	6+
3 M Hennigan	England	0	0	*	+	+	1	0	+	1	1	4+
4 M Sadler	England	0	-	+	*	0	+	1	0	1	1	4+
5 K Arakhamia	Georgia	+	0	+	1	*	+	1	0	1	0	4+
6 I Rogers	Australia	0	0	0	-	+	*	0	1	1	1	4
7 I Gurevich	USA	+	+	1	0	0	1	*	+	+	0	4
8 M Hebden	England	+	0	+	-	1	0	+	*	0	+	4
9 R Sherbakov	Russia	0	+	-0	0	0	0	+	1	*	1	3
10 D Barua	India	0	+	0	0	1	0	1	+	0	*	3

The crosstable above gives a complete record of the result of every game in the Hastings tournament. "1" stands for a win, "+" for a draw and "0" for a loss.

Major attacks overseas jaunts for tearaways

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE Prime Minister yesterday attacked "airy-fairy theories" for dealing with criminals and said people were sick of young offenders being sent round the world at taxpayers' expense.

At a Crimestoppers' lunch at Wansford, Cambridgeshire, Mr Major said: "It flies in the face of common sense that you cut crime by appearing to reward those who have committed criminal acts."

The Prime Minister's comments came after a 17-year-old delinquent was sent on an 80-day "character-building" tour of Africa at public expense, and was arrested on suspicion of drink-driving within three days of his return.

In an exclusive interview with *The Times* the teenager, who visited Egypt, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Zambia at a cost of £7,000, described Africa as "weird, stupid"; Cairo as "totally disgusting rubbish"; the pyramids as "nothing special"; and riding camels as "painful". He said that sometimes he thought he would rather have been in prison.

■ The victim must be considered before the criminal, the Prime Minister said, in criticising "airy-fairy theories"

The Prime Minister told his audience yesterday: "I believe the climate is changing — changing against crime. People have had enough of some people seeming to put the criminal first and the victim second. They have had enough of airy-fairy theories. And I think they have probably had enough of some young offenders being sent around the world at the taxpayers' expense."

Mr Major claimed that the fight against crime lay at the heart of the Government's back to basics campaign, and said he hoped that the Criminal Justice Bill, due to have its second reading in Parliament next Tuesday, would have the support of all parties.

He said: "I want to see punishments fitting the crime, and we need to have greater consistency across the country. That is why Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, has brought forward his review of national standards of community sentences, and you can expect to see tougher guidelines when those are published later this year."

Mr Major said individuals could join the fight against crime as special constables, Neighbourhood Watch helpers or by involving themselves with schemes such as Crimestoppers, which invites the public to call freephone numbers to give information about suspected crime.

There were 2,303 arrests last year in the 14 police regions that have Crimestoppers, an increase of almost one third on the previous year.

West Midlands police yesterday announced that in its region 117 serious crimes, including a murder and 36 armed robberies, had been cleared up by people calling its Crimestoppers line last year.

Det Con Bob Leonard, who manages West Midlands Crimestoppers, said that although rewards were available, paid for by the Community Action Trust, most people preferred to give information anonymously rather than claim money.

ROBIN MAYES



Keepers at London zoo are hoping for the patter of tiny paws this summer after their sole remaining Sumatran tiger, Martin, above, was introduced successfully to Mira from a German zoo. In anticipation of the happy event, Esso yesterday agreed to adopt the pair and fund research on the rare beasts

Forgotten wells save London from rising risk of floods

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

DOZENS of abandoned wells of the kind that once fed the fountains in Trafalgar Square are being reopened under plans to boost London's water supplies.

The scheme is also aimed at saving parts of the Underground and buildings with deep basements and foundations from flooding and subsidence as water levels rise.

Many of the wells were abandoned in the early half of the century after demand from factories sucked the sources dry. However, with the flight of industry from London the water table, fed from the north by the Chilterns and from the south by the North Downs, is starting to return to ancient levels.

Water levels at Trafalgar Square were about 91 metres below street level in the early 1950s. Figures released yesterday show the level is now just 60 metres.

Scientists believe a ring of boreholes around the capital could be the key to managing the threat while cutting a water deficit in London amounting to 30-40 megalitres a day.

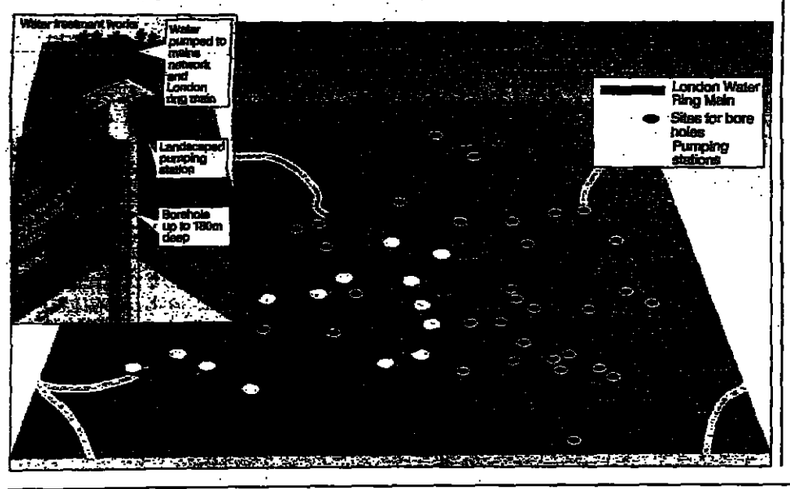
Dr Mike O'Shea, groundwater development manager at Thames Water, said the new figures indicated that groundwater levels were rising by two metres a year. At that rate some older buildings in the City, where the water table is lower than in south London, could suffer subsidence in 30 years, he said.

The project, which will take ten years, will identify abandoned or existing underground sources that are plentiful and clean enough to justify the installation of pumping gear and connection to the mains.

More than 30 boreholes will be examined, many of them drilled by the Victorians, but some of the sites may date from the Middle Ages. Only a handful of the sites under investigation will eventually be used.

Scientists believe that some of the underground sources, particularly in central London, have too many naturally occurring salts for drinking water. Instead these might be used for irrigation or street cleaning.

Londoners consume over 2,000 megalitres of water a day. The company hopes that the boreholes and measures to reduce leaks from mains and pipes could bridge a deficit of 77 megalitres a day.



Coastal towns fall under the weather

BY NIGEL HAWKES

PARTS of the South Coast are sinking by an inch every five years, geographers have found, making the towns along it more vulnerable to severe weather.

Tidal gauges in Portsmouth and Newhaven, East Sussex, have detected water levels rising by 5mm a year — or an inch every five years. Dr Janet Hooke told the Institute of British Geographers' conference in Nottingham that the change was a combination of the sea rising and the land sinking. Globally, sea levels are rising at 1-1.5mm a year, so the rest of the change must be due to land subsiding.

Dr Hooke, of the University of Portsmouth, and her colleague Malcolm Bray are looking for other long-term tidal figures to confirm the trend. They believe that the entire South Coast may be sinking. The geographers have used readings since 1962 to measure the change, but say more data are needed to be sure it is happening.

Floods along the South Coast are not common, although older parts of Portsmouth are vulnerable when the tide is especially high. "If we are right about the coast sinking, it means that the impact of severe conditions could be greater." Mr Bray said. "We can't say there won't be floods, that's an act of God. But the impacts can be controlled."

More floods, page 1

Arts Council 'misled' music panel

BY RICHARD MORRISON, ARTS EDITOR

EIGHT members of the Arts Council music panel that reviewed the way in which three leading London orchestras are funded have sent an open letter of complaint to Anthony Everitt, the council's secretary-general.

The panel members dissociate themselves from the way in which the council handled the funding debate and claim they were misled.

They criticise the council's "disastrous handling of press information", which "allowed attention to be focused on a concept (the super-orchestra) which was not part of the panel debate". And they "deplore the anxiety and waste of time and money that this has caused for all concerned".

After five months of turmoil for the London orchestras, the council finally announced a compromise solution in mid-December that left the funding of the orchestras much as it was before. Since then, Kenneth Baird, the council's music officer, has resigned.

Eight panel members, including Dr Janet Ritterman, the director of the Royal College of Music, and Graham Dixon, a BBC music producer, have signed the letter which claims that the council misled the panel from the start. "The council encouraged the panel to consider a redistribution of London orchestral funding, and appointed the Hoffmann committee to advise the council, while overlooking the fact that the council had already made financial commitments that rendered the whole exercise pointless. The crucial undertakings were not disclosed to the panel."

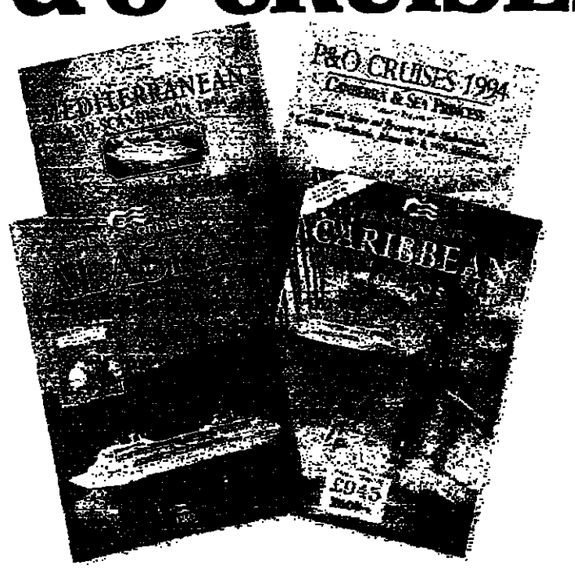
A notable absentee from the signatories is Bryan Magee, the music panel's chairman. The publication of such a strong letter of disapproval from within the council will undoubtedly increase the pressure on Lord Gowrie, the incoming Arts Council chairman, when he takes up his appointment in April.



Everitt: under fire for his handling of funds debate

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Secret of £7m auction bid goes to grave with dealer

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

■ The death of a dealer who bid massively over the odds for an antique and then refused to pay has left the auction world mystified

THE dealer who bid a record £7 million for an antique calculator and then failed to pay has died in Zurich, leaving Christie's with a legal dilemma.

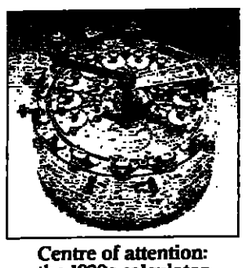
The death of Edgar Mannheimer has also led to renewed speculation among fellow dealers that his extraordinary bid — 350 times the estimate — may have been a trick against the auctioneers.

Christie's is believed to have started taking steps to freeze Mr Mannheimer's assets in an attempt to recoup the estimated £1.4 million it lost in commission. Now, after Mr Mannheimer's death on Boxing Day, the auction house is considering whether to turn its attention to his estate. Mr Mannheimer's most valuable asset was his fleet of classic cars, worth up to £6 million.

"There has been a sale and we maintain he should pay," Anthony Stretfield, Christie's lawyer, said. Auction law is such that the fall of the gavel constitutes a contract of sale.

The calculator — a gilt and lacquered brass contraption made in the 1820s by the German craftsman Johann Christoph Schuster — is still in Christie's vaults.

Mr Mannheimer had been a familiar figure on the auction circuit as a larger-than-life "Mr Ten Percent", paying huge sums for clocks and watches and then selling them on for small profits. As a result, Christie's readily accepted his telephone bids last May as they left the £20,000 estimate some £6.98 million behind.



Centre of attention: the 1820s calculator

Afterwards, the company's executives reassured enquirers that the sale was genuine, and that the money had been paid. It emerged later that this was not the case. Mr Mannheimer was quoted as saying he had no intention of paying.

With Mr Mannheimer's death the full story of the auction may remain a mystery. "It's very curious," said Sebastian Whitestone, one of Mr Mannheimer's erstwhile rivals. "Usually the trade finds out sooner or later what has happened. Here, to a man, it is mystified." The one thing Mr Whitestone was sure of, however, was that "there was no way in any circumstances" that the calculator should have fetched £7 million.

The theory that the bid was a joke is fuelled by the fact that if Mr Mannheimer had been engaged by a client to bid a huge sum, he would have had a written contract. If that client had then got cold feet, Mannheimer could have sued him. The notoriously gossipy art world has heard no whisper, suggesting that there never was a client.

Professor Bernhardt Korte, of the Forschungesinstitut fur Diskrete Mathematik, a mathematics research centre in Bonn, was bidding at the auction, but his budget was £250,000 and it is assumed he dropped out early on.

Mr Mannheimer might have been both bidder and underbidder, operating on the telephone and through a stooge in the room, in a flamboyant swansong intended to spite Christie's.

"He was mentally unbalanced, forcing himself to try to do business when he was not responsible for his actions," said Eric Grouse, a dealer and lifelong friend of Mr Mannheimer. "His wife was very worried."

John Baddeley, Sotheby's scientific instrument expert, admitted: "He was a great egotist and refused to be beaten. He always was a difficult client."

SIMON WALKER



Joanne Whalley-Kilmer and Timothy Dalton together in London yesterday

Stars ready for wind of change

By Emma Wilkins

TIMOTHY Dalton is not over impressed with the qualities of Scarlett O'Hara. Which might prove difficult tomorrow when the former James Bond star begins filming the sequel to *Gone With The Wind* opposite Joanne Whalley-Kilmer's Scarlett.

Dalton, who plays Rhett Butler, was introduced to his co-star in London yesterday. Dalton, moustache in place, said of his beloved's character: "She's very mercurial and there are a lot of qualities in her I wouldn't like at all."

Whalley-Kilmer, 31, who beat off competition for the title role from rivals including Julia Roberts, star of *Pretty Woman*, was not put out. "It's a very sexual relationship, so we do have sex scenes," she promised.

The television mini-series, called *Scarlett*, has a budget of £27 million and will be shown in November.

Whalley-Kilmer admitted to some qualms at taking on Vivien Leigh's role. "I was nervous, but it's a wonderful role and I would be crazy if I didn't do it," she said.

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Drivers step on gas for car of future

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

THE age of the gas-powered car, which could be refuelled from a tap in the home similar to the one connected to the domestic cooker, is only a few years away.

Up to 200,000 cars fuelled by natural gas could be on the roads by the year 2000, British Gas believes, as local authorities, car companies and private motorists search for ways of cutting pollution.

Cars using conventional four-cylinder internal combustion engines can be fired with natural gas with only minor adaptations and with little effect on performance.

Natural gas has two important advantages. It is cleaner than petrol or diesel engines, emitting 30 per cent less carbon dioxide, 70 per cent less carbon monoxide, no lead and almost no sulphur or particulates — the soot particles spread by diesel engines.

It also requires no dedicated filling stations. Although British Gas has opened a series of filling stations across Britain for the first company vehicles to use natural gas, future refuelling could be via the home gas tap.

British Gas says natural gas can be used to power conventional petrol and diesel engines with modifications costing an average of £1,500. The company is testing about 300 vehicles capable of running on either petrol or gas or a mix of diesel and gas and estimates gas is about 30 per cent cheaper per mile than unleaded petrol.

Researchers are initially working with companies that operate from their own fleet compounds to ease refuelling problems.

However, Tom Gorman, in charge of the Natural Gas Vehicles Project, said: "It will not be long before home refuelling apparatus can be installed to make for the ultimate in practicality."

Credo

Why faith steers clear of details

John Wijngaards

Chesterton once rightly remarked that the modern world is filled with people who hold dogmas so strongly that they do not even know that they are dogmas. One such dogma is that *incarnation* — God making contact in human form — is unthinkable. The recent discussion on the magi will have strengthened the bias, for it is on factualities such as did the magi exist, did they visit the newborn Jesus, that the credibility of Christian belief is perceived to rest.

Let us look at the facts. The story of the magi in Matthew's gospel is a theological reflection known as a *midrash*. Matthew finds seven prophecies that tie the Messiah to specific localities: Bethlehem (Micah 5,2), Judah (Numbers 24,17), Jerusalem (Isaiah 60,1-7), Egypt (Hosea, 11,1), Ramah (Jeremiah 31,15), Galilee (Isaiah 9,1-2) and Nazareth (Isaiah 11,1). Employing a form of meditation, he weaves an account in which the newborn saviour touches on all these places. Yet in Matthew's view, Christ transcends all of them.

Where does God-with-us belong? Or rather, to which race does he belong? Here Matthew takes his cue from the vision in Isaiah 60. A light shines on Zion when kings ride in from the East, bearing gifts. Foreigners throng to join God's people and build a new Jerusalem. Here Matthew sees the answer. Christ was born to be God's healing hand for every human being. In putting the magi centre stage, Matthew anticipates the end of his gospel: "Go out to the whole world! Make disciples of all nations!"

Of course, we can still research the factual basis of a visit by wise men. Persian astrologers were the scientists of their time. The passing of Halley's comet at around 8BC may have sent them on a flurry of expeditions to explore its cause. But such detail misses the point of Matthew's reflection. He wants us to ponder the universality of the Christ event. It is this event that is historical, not details of his meditation.

Reading *A Christmas Carol* by Dickens we waste time asking if Scrooge was an actual person or if he saw Marley's ghost. In Dickens's account this is not to the point. Dickens warns the Scrooge in each one of us that we will ruin our lives if we do not learn to be human and to give.

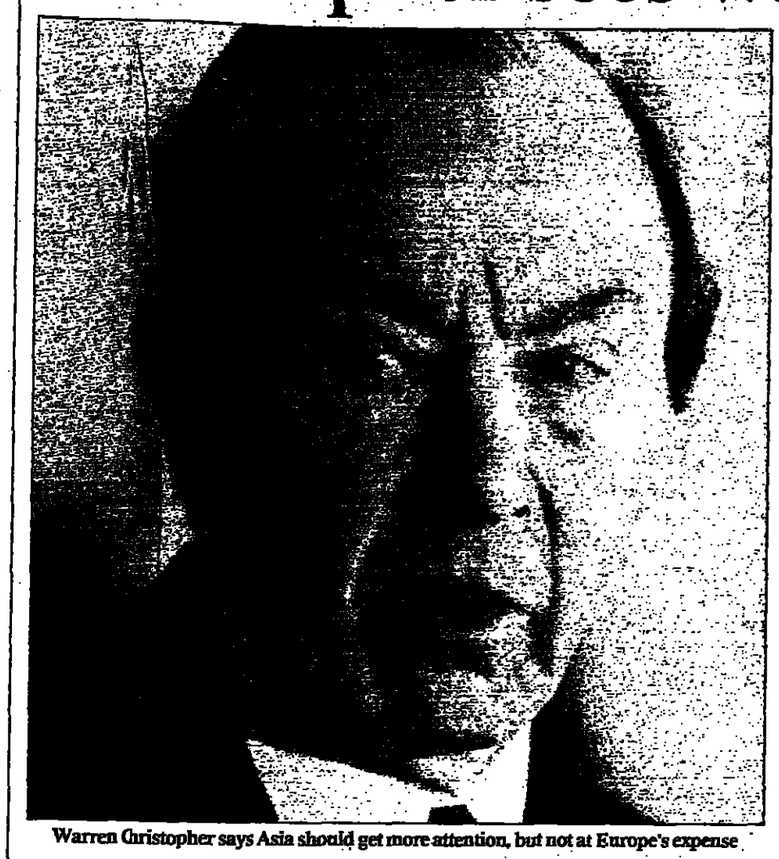
Similarly, Matthew's magi teach us to go on our journey to look for God who reaches out to us, as they did. Nor does Matthew's use of an occasional *midrash* brand his gospel as unhistorical. Chesterton's Father Brown stories do not dismiss his political satire or his biographies as fiction. Matthew presents a reliable account of Jesus's life.

Jesus of Nazareth was not a fictional character, but a real person who changed the course of history. But, throughout his gospel, Matthew is concerned with the meaning of the facts he presents; most of all, with the meaning of incarnation. God, unspeakable mystery of mysteries, came to meet us, and still meets us, in a human image. Can't be? But then, is the incredible not often truer than fiction?

☐ John Wijngaards is a Roman Catholic theologian and director of Housetop, which produces video courses for adult faith formation.

US will place emphasis on peace partnership strategy at Clinton's first alliance meeting

Christopher sees way of hope in foreign policy maze



Warren Christopher says Asia should get more attention, but not at Europe's expense

President Clinton's foreign policy chief tells ***Martin Fletcher*** *that, despite disputes over trade and Bosnia, the Anglo-American "special relationship" will always be just that*

Warren Christopher, the American Secretary of State, outlines a distinctly positive outlook for relations with Britain and Western Europe, for Eastern Europe's future with Nato, and for the Administration's foreign policy record — all issues that more detached observers of President Clinton's first full year in office might not recognise.

Sitting in the ornate anteroom of his seventh-floor State Department office, rather nattily dressed in a pink shirt and light-grey pinstriped suit with a bright red handkerchief, the Secretary of State was articulate and smooth despite acute laryngitis which he quelled with hot lemon tea. His mug bore the words: "Diplomacy — the ability to tell someone to go to hell so that he'll look forward to making the trip".

His performance and style display much of that talent. *US News and World Report* stated this week that "Clinton's worst personal relationship is probably with British Prime Minister John Major, and the distrust runs deep", but Mr Christopher insisted that the Anglo-American "special relationship" will "always be there".

This Administration's dealings with Western Europe have been dominated by nasty squabbles over trade and policy in Bosnia-Herzegovina. These issues belittled Europe even before Mr Clinton's November summit with leaders of Asia's booming economies. Mr Christopher insisted, however, that transatlantic relations were in "strong shape", that Mr Clinton would go to great lengths next week to emphasise their "health and significance", and that by the time the President had made three trips to Europe in the first seven months of this year transatlantic relations would look very different.

The Secretary of State declined to recant his widely reported observation last October that American foreign policy was too "Eurocentric". He said, however, that he would "like to have it understood that I felt we had not been paying enough attention to Asia and Latin America". That balance could be redressed "without downplaying the great significance of Europe which, after all, is a trading partner of the same size as Asia and an investment partner of much larger size".

He said the success of the United States and the European Community in finally completing the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks last month bodes well for the future, and he appeared determined that Bosnia's war on Nato's doorstep should not undermine American attempts to reinvigorate the alliance next week.

He sidestepped a question about new French demands for American intervention and gave no hint of any fresh initiatives to tackle what he once described as a crucial test of the post-Cold War world's ability to cope with ethnic conflicts. Bosnia was "such an important subject I think any communiqué would be hollow without it," Mr Christopher said, but suggested that the summit would "provide us primarily with an opportunity to reiterate the willingness of Nato to do the things we said we would do".

One of those undertakings was to bomb the Serbs if they tried to "strangle" Sarajevo. This week alone the Serbs have killed nearly 40 residents of the Bosnian capital, but Mr Christopher said that whether Sarajevo was being "strangled" was a matter of judgment. In some ways the situation was clearly deteriorating, in others it was improving. It was also a judgment "overlaid with consequences", because bombing the Serbs would jeopardise the relief operations that were saving so many lives.

The subject Mr Clinton does want to highlight at the Nato summit is *Partnership for Peace*, the American plan to promote ever-closer military co-operation with the states of the former Warsaw Pact. East Europe's new democracies have been pressing for swift admission to Nato as protection against any revival of Russian imperialism. Mr Christopher said Nato was not a social club, and should not be expanded in a way that would weaken it militarily. He predicted, however, that the summit would offer firm assurances that the alliance would eventually accept and welcome any state that demonstrated it could "pull its oar".

Mr Christopher disputed the idea that the Administration's foreign policy had inspired little confidence abroad. It had been right on the big issues of global trade and support for Russian reform, and had advanced the Middle East peace process, he said.

The United States might be pulling out of Somalia with no settlement in sight, but its intervention had saved hundreds of thousands of lives. Haiti had lacked democracy for 200 years, and "the fact that we have not solved it in 11 months should not be recorded as a failure". Bosnia was "clearly an unsolved problem and a great frustration for all of us," but "much good has been done" in the way of humanitarian relief.

"I hope people will take confidence from our overall performance," Mr Christopher said, but one suspects many Europeans will be suspending judgment until next week when they get their first close look at Mr Clinton and his most senior diplomat.

Major visit, page 1

Eastern bloc must change its habits before joining club

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, it its summit starting in Brusels on Monday, will effectively close its doors to new nembers from Eastern Europefor about five years. Politica sensitivities and fear of Rusian reprisals are not the only easons for the alliance's cold fet. There are also practical obections.

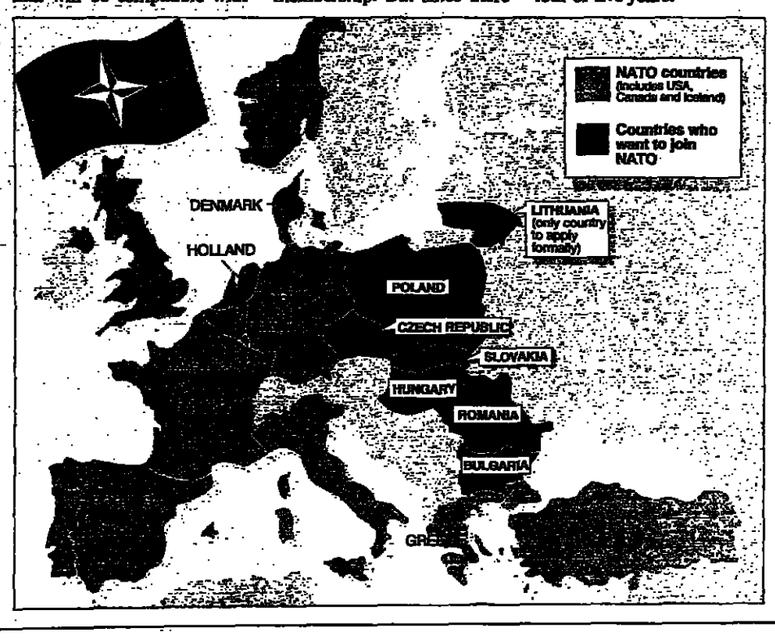
As Nato oficials have emphasised, membership of the alliance is nc a free ticket to an all-embracing security guarantee. A new member would be required to offer guarantees in return, including armed force capable of integrating into Nato, compatible communicaions equipment, shared procedures and doctrine, and an agreed obligation to help any other member under military attack.

The countries of Eastern Europe are only in the early stages of restructuring their forces aimed at forming rapid reaction units. Most are not even in a positin to defend their territory, let alone becoming Nato-compatible, one of the stipulation for alliance membership. A basic requirement will be an ablity, at least for potential Nato staff officers, to speak English. Polish officers have begu learning the language.

Eastern European countries wishing to join Nat will also need to develop inte-operable equipment, particularly a common air defence communications system for identifying "friend or foe". This year both the Americans and the British are planning to send soldiers to Poland for joint training programmes. Poland, with its fine military tradition and a pledge to keep a sizable army, is the obvious first candidate for membership. Since last September, Poland, along with the three other states of the Visegrad group, so called after a co-operation meeting in Visegrad near Budapest on February 15, 1991, has also been committed to replacing certain military equipment that will be compatible with Nato, particularly command systems.

Bulgaria is interested in joining Nato but has indicated a formal application will be delayed until the evolution towards a stable democracy has been completed. In Rumania, the left to centre-left coalition is shaky and many members of the old Communist Party have stayed on in high office. Lithuania was the first of the Baltic states to send in a formal application for membership. But since there is a substantial Russian military presence in the Russian enclave in Kaliningrad and Russian troops still in Latvia and Estonia, there is unlikely to be any hasty decision to welcome Lithuania.

The fast-stream candidates for membership would seem to be the Visegrad four: Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia. But senior Nato sources agreed that even these countries could not expect to join for at least four or five years.



Paris seeks link-up in defence

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

FRANCE wants the Nato summit to give its blessing to a "European defence identity" to deal with crises in Europe, such as the conflict in former Yugoslavia, independent of American participation.

This "rebalancing" of Nato will recognise the aftermath of the Cold War, says François Léotard, the Defence Minister, and will allow France to become involved again in the alliance's military planning. France plans to send its Defence Minister and top military officers to Nato meetings for the first time since De Gaulle withdrew the council from the integrated command in 1966, but the government insists it is not reversing the late President's action.

The failure of Nato to deal with the Bosnian conflict is partly pinned by French officials on the fact that America, the senior Nato partner, does not view the conflict as touching on its vital interests. France agrees with Washington that the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe should not be brought into Nato, for fear of angering Russia, but instead of America's "partnership" plan wants former Warsaw Pact states to work with the Western European Union.

President goes on trial in tour of five capitals

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

PRESIDENT Clinton, having attended his mother's funeral, leaves America tonight for his first official trip to Europe during which he will meet at least 23 Presidents and Prime Ministers in five capitals over the next eight days.

It is hard to overstate the trip's importance. The President must reinvigorate a Nato robbed of its raison d'être by the end of the Cold War, and win back the confidence of Western Europe after a year of bitter disputes. He must reassure Eastern Europe's fragile new democracies that they will not be left out in the cold, and bolster Russia's reformers at a time of acute cynicism and resurgent anti-Western nationalism in that giant nuclear power.

Mr Clinton is on trial. A chaotic world desperately needs strong American leadership, but saw the new President as preoccupied with domestic problems during his first year in office. This trip gives him the chance to still those fears, and to boost his stature at home before a monumental battle over health care reform.

First stop is Brussels, where Mr Clinton will tomorrow night spell out his vision of American-European relations in the post-Cold War era. On Monday and Tuesday he will attend a Nato summit, the main task of which is to endorse *Partnership for Peace*, Washington's answer to expanding Nato eastwards without weakening the alliance or inflaming Russia.



Zhirinovsky: to be avoided by Clinton

The summit should also approve an American initiative to allow groups of European states to use Nato infrastructure for operations in which Washington had no interest. This would meet demands, particularly by France, for a stronger European defence identity. The issue that threatens to disrupt the summit is Bosnia, a reminder of Nato's limitations and America's weak leadership.

Next Wednesday Mr Clinton holds an unprecedented meeting with the leaders of Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia in Prague. On Thursday and Friday Mr Clinton will be in Moscow for four meetings with President Yeltsin, but will pointedly not meet Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the ultra-nationalist leader.

Mr Clinton's most controversial stop is in Geneva to meet President Assad of Syria, a nation listed by Washington as a sponsor of terrorism, but Mr Clinton hopes the meeting will advance Middle East peace talks.

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REPORT FROM TUZLA

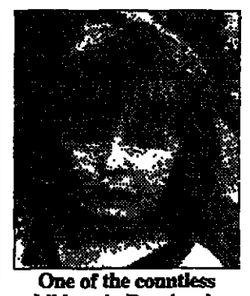
WHOEVER IS guilty of creating the hell that is Bosnia today, Adisa Ekrem and thousands of children like her are the innocent victims.

Six-year-old Adisa lives in an overcrowded makeshift refugee shelter near Tuzla. Orphaned after a devastating mortar blast, Adisa herself was discovered fighting for her life by UK aid agency Feed the Children. The shelter was desperately short of food, particularly the food needed by young children.

Feed the Children delivers food and medical and hygiene supplies directly to children in immediate need. They're bringing hope to hell. Their work is fast, efficient, well targeted, and often carried out in very dangerous conditions. They have saved Adisa's life – and the lives of countless more children like her.

But every week, yet more children are made homeless. Feed the Children has pledged that if military action threatens aid deliveries to any area, they will continue to distribute supplies wherever they can in former Yugoslavia.

To do this, they need more support from people in Britain. *Times* readers can make a real difference. With £25, Feed the Children can feed 45 hungry infants for one day. Please give whatever you can to save the lives of these innocent children.



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TAKING THE AID DIRECT

President's critics win loan scandal concession

■ A law the Democrats supported after the Watergate scandal may be used against Bill Clinton when his business dealings as Arkansas Governor return to haunt him

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

IN A belated attempt to counter allegations of a cover-up, Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, has decided to ask for the appointment of an independent prosecutor to investigate President Clinton's involvement in an Arkansas financial scandal.

The move comes in response to growing allegations about Mr Clinton's investment in Whitewater Development Corporation, an Arkansas property development company. The matter is being dealt with by Justice Department investigators who are trying to establish whether Madison Guaranty, an Arkansas savings and loan company, channelled fraudulent loans to Whitewater, and whether any of the funds were diverted to finance the re-election campaign in 1984 of Mr Clinton, then Governor.

A decision to seek an independent counsel will require the passage of a law by Congress to renew the independent prosecutor statute, which expired in 1992. Under that law, a three-panel court could appoint a counsel who acts independently of the Justice Department to prevent conflicts of interests. President Clinton and most Democrats supported the renewal of the law, which had arisen out of the Watergate scandal. Now with Mr Clinton the target of an investigation, Republicans in the House are dropping their opposition to the renewal of the statute, which is subject to a vote in the House of Representatives in a few weeks. The Senate has passed its version of the legislation.

Ms Reno, however, remains adamant in her opposition to appoint a "special" counsel who, unlike an "independent" counsel, would not be subject to any legislation. Ms Reno argued that the appointment of a special counsel would only delay the investigation. "I am going to be damned if I do, and damned if I don't," she said. In an unusually harsh editorial yesterday, "Janet Reno's Shameful Delay", *The New York Times* charged that Ms Reno "seems hellbent on sacrificing her reputation to the White House's effort to contain the Whitewater Development flap".

David Gergen, Mr Clinton's special counsellor, attacked the President's critics. He said: "As the President goes home to bury his mother, to have the political opposition on the warpath, hammering away, raises all sorts of questions about what has happened in this town. Where is the decency that we once had?"

Attention is shifting to whether the scandal is connected to the suicide last July of Vincent Foster, the former deputy White House counsel, who held the Whitewater files in his office. On the day of his death Mr Foster received a telephone call from a lawyer who was dealing with the Whitewater case on behalf of the Clintons. The same day David Hale, a former Clinton-appointed judge, was charged with defrauding the Small Business Administration. Mr Hale owned a company specialising in loans to the "socially or economically disadvantaged". One recipient of a Hale-orchestrated loan was Susan McDougal, the former wife of James McDougal, the owner of Madison and partner with the Clintons in Whitewater.

Double standards, page 14



INTERSPORT TELEVISION

Nancy Kerrigan doubling up with pain as she holds her right knee after being attacked by a man with a crowbar during skating practice

Crowbar attack on Olympic skater strikes terror into celebrity sports circuit

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

WHEN an unidentified man brandishing a crowbar attacked Nancy Kerrigan, the figure skater, in Detroit on Thursday night, he succeeded in bruising her right knee, but he may have failed to destroy her chances of competing in the Winter Olympic Games, as seems to have been his intention.

Kerrigan, 24, America's top female figure skater, was reported to be shaken by the attack, and her attacker escaped. He was observed filming the skater with a video-camera and sweating profusely as she practised at Cobo Hall rink. "It could have been a lot worse," she told ABC television news. "It is not the most important thing to skate. If I cannot compete [in the Olympics] I will have to deal with it." Last night she announced that she would not take part in the US figure-skating championship, at which she was expected to qualify for the US Winter Olympics team, but officials said she might still be able to participate in the event next month in Lillehammer.

But the damage done to a nervous sporting world, concerned about security after the knife attack on Monica Seles in Hamburg last April, may be far more critical. Oddly, for an industry which combines celebrity exposure with extreme competitiveness, sport has usually avoided the stalkers and killers that have become a grim, accepted aspect of the celebrity circuit.

Before the attack on Seles, the last attack on a sports figure was in 1949 when Eddie Waitkus, a Philadelphia baseball star, was shot and wounded by an infatuated and deranged teenager — an episode that inspired the film *The Natural*.

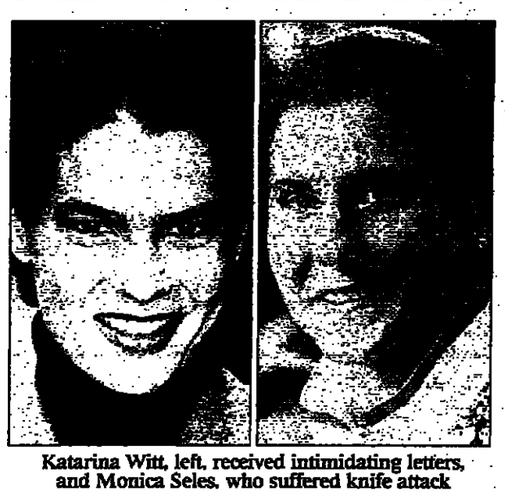
Athletes have hitherto been largely able to avoid bodyguards and round-the-clock protection, usually remaining accessible to fans in a way that pop stars and politicians would not contemplate. But the attacks on Seles and Kerrigan are likely to change that, prompting not just tighter security but, inevitably, a more distant relationship with sports fans.

"This could be the end of the autograph in America, of fans being able to reach out and touch their athletes," Mike Moran of the US Olympic Committee told *USA Today* after Thusday's attack. "It is bound to have a very grave effect on the future. Athletes do not want to be off-limits to the rest of the world, but it is something we all want to think about."

As athletes have gradually been transformed into show business personalities, along with multi-million-dollar sponsorship contracts and year-round exposure, so the danger of stalking has increased dramatically. Two-time Olympic figure-skating champion Katarina Witt, for example, received more than 35,000 letters after she won the gold medal in Sarajevo in 1984, most of them adoring, some of them intimidating. A man is serving a 37-month jail sentence for threatening Witt. Tonya Harding, the figure skater, was forced to abandon an event in Portland, Oregon, last year after a man threatened to bomb the ice-rink.

Many American athletes have already started taking extra security precautions. Cal Ripken, Orioles baseball player, elected to stay anonymously in a separate hotel from his team mates last season after being accosted by an outraged fan. Other sportsmen and women have begun hiring personal bodyguards.

The US Olympic Committee is expected to discuss tighter security measures when it meets in Durham, North Carolina, next week.



Katarina Witt, left, received intimidating letters, and Monica Seles, who suffered knife attack

Peasants flee from bombing raids in Chiapas

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LAS CASAS

WHEN the bombs began to fall near the hamlet of San Antonio de los Banos, Carmela Hernández, a 34-year-old mother of five, decided it was time to seek refuge elsewhere.

She grabbed her children and walked the five miles to the church of Don Bosco in San Cristóbal de las Casas. "There were a lot of helicopters and then the soldiers came. We don't want to die so soon," she said, kneeling on a thin blanket in a church annexe where two dozen Indian families have been trying to avoid the fighting between Mexican government troops and the rebel Zapatista National Liberation Army (ZNLA).

Life in the rural Chiapas state in southern Mexico has never been easy, but since the Indian peasant uprising began here a week ago it has become almost intolerable.

Chiapas is better known to the world for lush jungle ruins left by the Maya Indians, the colonial churches left by the Spaniards, and the inequalities that have prevailed since the two cultures met. But even after the Mexican Revolution of 1910-17 and decades of land reform, feudal servitude remains.

Chiapas has a long history of human rights abuses against the indigenous tribes, usually over land disputes with powerful landlords who owe allegiance to the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) of President Salinas de Gortari.

A few months ago in the tiny farm community of Tenejapa, 15 miles east of San Cristóbal, 400 Tzeltal Indians demanded the ousting of its local political baron, Sebastián "El Pepsi" Lopez, who is also the mayor and local soft drinks distributor.

They accused him of using violent intimidation and extortion. Police responded with tear gas and clubs, forcing many Indians to flee the town.

The PRI has tried to defuse political protest by expanding development projects in Chiapas, but it has underestimated how much need to be done.

☐ **Pardon offer:** The government said it would consider pardoning some of the participants in the peasant uprising. *(Reuter)*



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Afghan envoys moved

Kabul: The Afghan government is to evacuate all foreign diplomats from Kabul and move them to a safer town in northern Afghanistan, diplomatic sources here said. The government has also accepted a Pakistani appeal for a 24-hour ceasefire to evacuate foreigners and wounded Afghans, the sources said.

A lawlessness now prevails in Kabul and there is widespread looting of houses and public facilities by mujahidin guerrillas, the sources added. The government has faced rebellion from troops loyal to General Abdul Dostam, since New Year's Day. *(AFP)*

Troops to stay

Mogadishu: The United States will probably maintain a force of about 2,000 combat troops at sea off Somalia after March 31, when its forces are scheduled to be withdrawn, according to the commander of US forces in Somalia. *(AFP)*

Soldiers buried

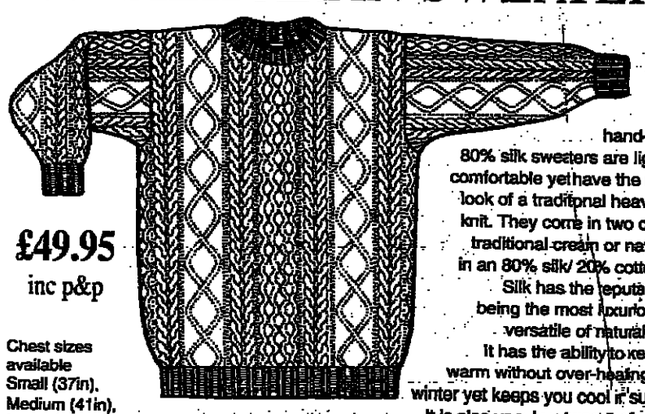
Tehran: President Rafsanjani of Iran attended a mass funeral for 850 Iranian soldiers killed in the 1980-1988 war with Iraq and whose remains were found recently. The ceremony was held at Tehran University. *(AFP)*

Body removed

Brisbane: A wall was removed to get the body of Kenneth Lacey, listed in the 1994 *Guinness Book of Records* as the world's heaviest human, from his home in Queensland. Lacey, 28, who weighed 955lbs, died of heart failure. *(Reuter)*

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TIM/0025

Saudis seek delay in £20bn arms debt to American firms

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

■ Oil prices are the lowest for five years and Saudi Arabia is short of cash. Its move to delay arms payments threatens thousands of American defence jobs

IN a move that is sending shudders through Washington and the American defence industry, Saudi Arabia has asked for more time to pay for arms purchases worth $30 billion (£20 billion). Falling oil prices, now at their lowest in five years, are causing cash-flow problems for the desert kingdom that once seemed to flow with unlimited riches.

Prince Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi ambassador in Washington, chose the far from frugal setting of his Starwood Ranch, a mansion of 40,000 sq ft near the ski resort of Aspen, Colorado, to break the news to top executives from three of the biggest American defence contractors. A flamboyant figure, a member of the Saudi royal family, and reputedly one of the world's richest men, the prince gave assurances that his country would make good on all its obligations but that the schedule of payments would need to be stretched out over the next few years. Saudi finance officials have arrived in Washington for talks on the new plan.

The executives who were given the gloomy news by the prince were from McDonnell Douglas, which has a contract with Saudi Arabia for 72 F15 fighters, General Dynamics, which is selling 315 Abrams tanks, and Hughes Aircraft, suppliers of a computerised air defence network.

A Pentagon statement issued yesterday, after the disclosure in *The Washington Post* that the Saudis were strapped for cash, confirmed that American officials were looking at ways to restructure the weapons sales. The statement continued: "Because of financial requirements affecting the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, we must adjust the foreign military sales programme to align it with the levels of oil-driven revenues."

Behind these bland words lies consternation among contractors and Washington officials that any cancellation or serious delay in Saudi weapons purchases could wreck profits and lead to the dismissal of thousands of defence workers. The Americans were so concerned that a delegation from the Pentagon, State Department and the defence industry flew to Aspen for a second round of talks with Prince Bandar.

General Dynamics said: "The prince assured the participants that his country's current cash liquidity problem is temporary." The Saudi Embassy said it would have no comment until Monday.



A Russian finds little happiness in prospect for this year during Orthodox Christmas celebrations in Moscow's Red Square. Another photograph, page 18

Rouble gains new currency

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA and Belorussia have agreed to merge their monetary systems by the middle of January and Tajikistan is to abandon its old Soviet currency and use new Russian roubles, it has been announced here, in a clear sign that Russia's embattled currency is making firm gains against the already-discredited new currencies introduced in most former Soviet republics.

The rush back to the rouble comes as some currencies, with unfamiliar names such as the som, dram, karbovanets and tenge are rapidly losing value, leading to soaring inflation and a paralysis in trade between the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Belorussia was the first country to abandon its local coupon, the "zaichik", or hare, which was introduced only in 1992 but now trades at five to the rouble. As the republic closest to Russia, where most of the population is still bewildered at the notion of independence, the Belorussians are keen to tie their struggling economy to Russia where inflation is falling and the rouble is virtually convertible.

Minsk hopes that a return to the rouble, now almost considered a hard currency, will bring political benefits, especially continued supplies of cheap fuel. Tajikistan, one of the poorest of the former Soviet republics and racked by civil war, is also hoping to ride on Russia's financial coat-tails.

Other countries that have revived ancient currency units have also seen them plummet. The Armenian dram fell sharply on Wednesday forcing the government to raise the price of basic commodities and services. The tenge in Kazakhstan has also fallen, although the country is rich in oil and minerals and is free of political turbulence.

The worst inflation has occurred in Ukraine, where there is the strongest opposition to ties with Moscow. The karbovanets is practically worthless. Inflation is over 100 per cent a month.

'King's vassals fly to pay tribute

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

ELVIS Presley has been spotted in Dallas, Nashville, Chicago, and 29 other cities around the United States. And what is more, he is going home, in droves.

Today would have been The King's 59th birthday and to celebrate the occasion (and liven up a slow weekend turnover), American Airlines has begun offering cheap round-trip tickets to Memphis, Tennessee, and a $20 (£13) discount to anyone who turns up at the ticket counter dressed as Elvis.

Gate agents for the airline will judge whether passengers are sufficiently sequined, sideburned or dead to qualify, and the airline has reported a steady stream of men, women and children shimmying their way to the ticket counters.

The offer from American comes in response to an earlier Elvis promotion by Northwest Airlines, which offered single-day round trips from 32 cities to Presley's former home at Graceland, Memphis, at fares ranging from $39 to $99.

"If Elvis Aaron Presley shows up and does a credible rendition of *Blue Suede Shoes*," we'll show him home," said Jon Austin of Northwest Airlines. This was presumably meant as a joke, but in a country where, according to a recent survey, one of out every 32 males is an Elvis impersonator he is asking for trouble.

Not to be left out of the show, United Airlines has said it will match some of the fares and Delta Airlines is considering whether to do the same.

Every year on January 8 thousands of fans gather at Graceland, The King's taste-resistant home-turned-museum, to mourn his passing, await his return or discuss his present whereabouts. According to the latest figures, 18 per cent of Americans believe that Elvis is not dead.



Elvis: would have had his 59th birthday today

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Rules for BT Chargecard Prize Draw

1. This prize draw is open to all BT customers who apply for a BT Chargecard before the closing date, and all existing BT Chargecard holders. BT employees, their families and anyone else connected with the competition are ineligible. Eligibility is subject to BT acceptance of the customer's application.
2. Winners will be the first ten eligible customers whose details are drawn by BT.
3. Applications from BT customers without a BT Chargecard must be received at the address given on or before 20th January 1994.
4. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of receipt. No responsibility is accepted for any applications lost, delayed or delivered to the wrong or otherwise illegible applications will be disqualified.
5. The ten prize winners will each receive a credit of up to £2000 for calls made using their BT Chargecard during the period from 1st February 1994 to 31st January 1995 inclusive, at the rate of £250 per quarter.
6. There is no cash alternative to the prizes.
7. Winners will be notified by post shortly after 20th January.
8. The names of the winners can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to BT Chargecard Prize Draw, 49 Drury Lane, London, WC2B 5RE, 15 days after the closing date
9. Entries are limited to one per customer.

Conditions for BT Chargecard Service

BT Chargecard Service

1. We agree to provide you with BT Chargecard Service on the following terms and conditions.
2. This contract does not include your telephone service, for which you must pay separately.
3. The definitions used in this contract are at paragraph 14.

Provision of BT Chargecard Service

4. You promise us that you are (or your nominee) authorised to apply for the BT Chargecard Service and that calls made using the service can properly be billed to the Related Telephone Number.
5. We will try to provide BT Chargecard Service to you by any date we have agreed with you but we are not liable to you if we do not provide it by the agreed date.

Your responsibilities

6. You must use the BT Chargecard and PIN properly and take all reasonable steps to make sure that they are used properly by any Cardholder. You must not try to use it after it has ceased being valid. The BT Chargecard remains our property at all times and you must return it to us immediately on request.
7. You must tell us immediately if:
7.1 the BT Chargecard is lost or stolen, or if a BT Chargecard number or PIN has become known to someone not authorised to use it;
7.2.2 a Cardholder's authority to use the BT Chargecard is withdrawn, or
7.2.3 a BT Chargecard is likely to be used in an unauthorised way.
8. You must confirm to us any telephone notification of unauthorised use in writing within seven days.
9. We can issue instructions to you and Cardholders on the use of BT Chargecard Service and you must observe these instructions and take reasonable steps to ensure that Cardholders observe them.

Validity of BT Chargecards

10. A BT Chargecard is not valid if:
10.1 the date on the BT Chargecard has passed,
10.2 telephone service to the Related Telephone Number has been terminated or suspended, or
10.3 we are told about any matters set out in paragraph 7.

Our charges

11. You must pay all charges resulting from the use of the BT Chargecard, which will be included in the telephone bill of the Related Telephone Number. Charges resulting from the use of the BT Chargecard will be under arrangements specified in the BT Price List.
12. If your BT Chargecard is used by an unauthorised person, you are liable for the first £25 per BT Chargecard of any charges incurred as a result, until you notify us of the unauthorised use.

Changes in BT Chargecard Service

13. We can change the number of the BT Chargecard or the PIN, or any name, account number or code allocated to you for use with BT Chargecard Service. We can require you to request any change to your BT Chargecard Service in writing.

Daily allowances

14. If we allocate to you or a Cardholder a daily allowance and/or an overall credit allowance for calls made using BT Chargecard Service, we can change those figures at any time.
15. If you or a Co. cholder make calls costing more than these allowances, you are still liable to pay for them. We can suspend or terminate BT Chargecard Service to you or a Cardholder immediately if you or a Cardholder exceed these limits.

Suspension or termination of services

16. We can suspend or terminate this contract, with immediate effect. If you do not comply with its terms or if telephone service to the Related Telephone Number is suspended or terminated for any reason.
17. You can terminate BT Chargecard Service by giving us 7 days' notice in writing to the appropriate BT main office. The 7 days run from the date on which we receive the notice.
18. We can withdraw BT Chargecard Service on one month's notice in writing to you.

Insolvency

19. We can also terminate this contract with immediate effect if you are subject to a bankruptcy order (or in Scotland you sequestration) or in Northern Ireland you are adjudicated bankrupt, or if you become insolvent or make any arrangement or compositions with or assignment for the benefit of your creditors, or if any of your assets are the subject of any form of seizure. If the customer is a company, BT can terminate this contract if it becomes insolvent, or goes into liquidation, either voluntary or compulsory, or if a receiver or administrator is appointed.

Limitation of liability

20.1. We accept liability for faults in the BT Chargecard Service and our negligence, but only to the extent stated in this paragraph 18.
20.2. We do not exclude or restrict our liability for death or personal injury resulting from our negligence, nor any liability arising under part 1 of the Consumer Protection Act 1987.
20.3. Our liability to you in contract law or in tort or delict or otherwise howsoever arising in relation to this contract is limited to £1,000,000 for any one incident or related series of incidents and £2,000,000 for any series of incidents related or unrelated in any period of 12 months.
20.4. In any event we are not liable to you for loss of profits, business or anticipated savings, whether incurred directly or indirectly, or for any indirect or consequential damage whatever, either in contract, tort or delict or otherwise.
20.5. We do not have any implied obligation, duty or liability in contract, tort or delict other than those explicitly stated in this contract.
20.6. Each provision of this paragraph limiting or excluding liability operates separately in itself and survives independently of the others.

Protection of contract

21. We can vary the terms of this contract from time to time. We will make available details of the variations, signed by an authorised employee, in our main office, not less than two weeks in advance.

Service of notices

22. We can send you any bill or written notice required by this contract to the address for the Related Telephone Number or any address you have given us for this purpose.

Matters beyond our control

23. We are not liable for breaches of this contract caused by matters beyond our reasonable control.

Definitions

24.1 'We' or 'us' means Mercury Telecommunications plc. 'Cardholder' means a person nominated by you as a person to whom a BT Chargecard is to be issued under this contract. A 'PIN' means a Personal Identity Number. 'Related Telephone Number' means the telephone exchange line provided by us and nominated by you as the one to which charges for calls made using BT Chargecard Service are to be billed. BT's 'main office' is that stated on the telephone bill for the related telephone number. The BT Price List is BT's published list of charges and is available for inspection at BT's main office during normal office hours.
24.2. The definitions, notes, terms and conditions in our Price List are also part of this contract.

BT Chargecard application form

Please complete this form, then cut it out and post it to: **BT Chargecard, PO Box 1103, FREEPOST (LV7175), Liverpool L73 3BT.**

Cardholders' details

Please give details of each person you would like a BT Chargecard for. If you want cards for more than three people, please photocopy this form, and send all the forms in together in an envelope. Remember – the cards themselves are free.

■ **Cardholder 1**

Give your own details here, if you want a card for yourself. Name exactly as you want it to appear on the card. *Up to 27 letters and spaces, including the title.*

Title | Name

Business name if you want it on *all* the cards. *Up to 27 letters and spaces.*

■ **Cardholder 2**

Title | Name

■ **Cardholder 3**

Title | Name

COU 013

Billing details

■ Information from your office or home BT phone bill.
We will charge this number for all calls made with the BT Chargecards that you order.

Name
Address
Postcode
Phone number, including code (eg 071, 0442)

■ Are any BT Chargecards already charged to this bill?
☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ Don't know

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Declaration

- Please send me BT Chargecards for the Cardholders I have listed.
- I understand that any BT Chargecards will be supplied subject to status, and on the Conditions for BT Chargecard Service.
- I understand that I have to tell BT immediately if any BT Chargecard is lost or stolen, or if its account number or PIN is likely to be used by someone who is not authorised to use it.

Who should sign this form?

For a home phone number: the person whose name is on the phone bill, must sign it.

For a limited company or another corporate body: an authorised person must sign it.

For a partnership: a partner must sign and add the words 'for self and partners'.

Signature please check you are the right person to sign – see the notes
Date
If the application is for a business, please also give your
Name
Job title

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Sydney burns in the hell of Black Friday

■ Forecasts of strong winds and searing temperatures in the next two days bode ill as Australia fights its worst fire

FROM ROBERT COCKBURN IN SYDNEY

THE city is like an oven, covered with a canopy of smoke that has turned the light a strange amber. Radio stations broadcast warnings, street by street, to residents in the line of encroaching flames and perilous wind changes. Witnesses describe walls of flames reaching 200ft and bursting out of isolated mountain regions towards populated coastal valleys and towns.

There are many cases of fires deliberately started, and a 13-year-old boy has been arrested for arson. An Aus$100,000 (£45,000) reward for information is being offered by John Fahey, the New South Wales Premier.

Phil Koperberg, commissioner of the New South Wales bush fire services department, said: "We have never had to face fires of this magnitude in Australia." Three people have died in the fires, the worst since fires in 1983 killed 72 people and destroyed thousands of homes in Victoria and South Australia.

Up to 70 houses were destroyed yesterday as fires raged only six miles from the centre of Australia's biggest city. Houses exploded in the intense heat in what firefighters dubbed Black Friday.

Terry Griffiths, the state's police and emergency services minister, said up to 3,000 homes would be destroyed unless there was a break in the weather. "We've probably got several thousand houses at risk and I can say to you that in the next 72 hours if we only lose two or three thousand houses we'll be doing very well."

Firefighters fear the situation could deteriorate today, with searing temperatures and gusty winds forecast for the next two days. More than 7,000 firefighters, helped by soldiers and sailors, battled the fires ravaging 500 miles of coastline in New South Wales.

All attempts to halt the fires across the state were abandoned on Thursday as exhausted fire crews concentrated on saving life and property. Mr Koperberg said: "There is now not one fire burning in New South Wales that can be deemed to be under control. If you compare it to 1968, major fires resulted in the loss of 300 houses and many lives — there were still only three central fire points. Now we have 90 fires which are not dissimilar to those, each with the potential to do what they did then."

Fire is the worst nightmare for Australians — it is the dark side of their idyllic sun and beach culture. Leafy suburban streets are witnessing thousands of families leaving home for the safety of local clubs and evacuation centres.

For all its vast spaces, Australia's small population becomes evident in a crisis. The main ABC radio network has been turned over to a nonstop community station linking all affected areas with telephone call-ins across the state. It is a mix of information, and ironic Aussie humour, as callers describe flames licking around them and the problems of trying to get the council to remove dead leaves from their lawns.

One of the worst affected areas is Gosford, on the central coast north of Sydney where thousands of people have been ordered to evacuate. Conditions are described as desperate and worsening around Newcastle on the northern coast and in the adjacent Hunter Valley.

The severity of the fires is being blamed on the failure of authorities to carry out regular burn-offs of bushland, a practice that has dwindled since the 1970s because it was deemed unsightly.

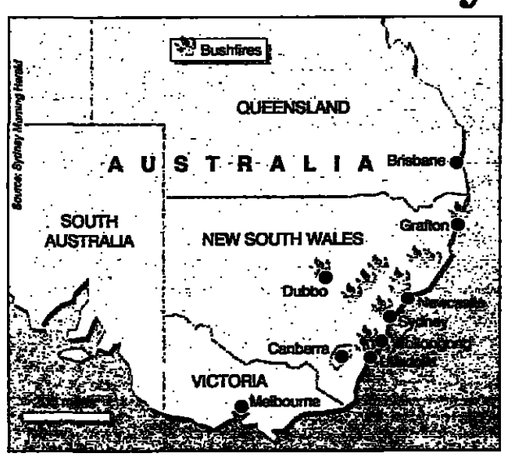
Sydney threatened, page 1



Evacuees from Bundeena, 25 miles from Sydney, running for cover, above, as fire approaches the Royal National Park, while in Lindfield, a resident hoses his roof



Residents defy police advice to flee the valley of flames



FROM JAMES MORGAN IN SYDNEY

The authorities had issued stern warnings not to remain in homes but be prepared to leave immediately when told to do so by the police. But with the worst bush fires seen in more than half a century tearing through parts of Sydney, Harry and Rhoda Jeavons were determined to stay and save their farm and home at Kulnura, New South Wales, where they had lived for almost 50 years.

Harry, 78, like many of his fellow residents, relies heavily on his property near Wyong to survive. "I have been here since 1947 and I am not going to let any young policeman tell me to leave so that my home can be burnt down. I will stay here for as long as it is humanly possible," he said. Rhoda added: "There is a lot of love associated with this place. A farm is not just a place to live. It is your life."

Where Harry and Rhoda live is remote: neither their street nor property has a name. Harry said: "We are just roadside mailbox 2500, that's it".

Thousands of Sydneysiders will not know until the morning whether precautions, such as clearing leaves from their gutters and replacing them with water, have prevented their houses from being burnt down. Mito Curic, however, now knows the fate of his house on Sydney's exclusive North Shore — he saw it burnt to the ground. "I always thought we were safe here, so close to the city. I didn't bother to hose down the house. One second everything was fine and the next the fire was down on us. It was over in minutes." Flames 60 feet high jumped from treetops to back yards and ignited homes as the blaze swept through Sydney's southern outskirts. A young woman had to be dragged away from her burning town house, and she broke down and screamed as she saw the blaze ignite trees close to her unit block.

Kate Freedman, a teenager, was visiting a friend's house when they noticed the fire shooting up the valley towards them. The family raced to the rear of the home and armed themselves with buckets and hoses.

Kate said: "The flames were leaping all over the place and it was moving so fast in a ball of fire. It was really scary because we could see that the fire was coming straight for us." Dozens of police cars raced to the corner of streets in Chatswood, close to the heart of the city and the opera house, knocking on doors and telling residents to leave their homes immediately. One man who stood helplessly on the footpath was trying desperately to find out what had happened to his home, believed to have been burnt down further along the road.

Smoke and ash from the New South Wales bush fires have now drifted as far as New Zealand. Pilots competing in gliding championships in the centre of New Zealand's South Island found themselves soaring among ash and smoke believed to be from the New South Wales fires.

Telecom Australia has asked mobile phone users north of Sydney not to use their phones after a mobile network base station was destroyed. High temperatures are forecast to continue throughout the weekend, posing further fire dangers.

Britain exports karaoke on wheels

London: A Hong Kong millionaire wanted to complete his car collection with something really special, so he ordered a Mini Cooper fitted with a karaoke machine and refrigerator. Last May George Wong approached a British garage that specialises in "customising" the small, sporty saloon cars.

"He said he wanted the most luxurious Mini in the world," said Paul Sibley, designer at John Cooper Cars. Mr Sibley spent £632,000 on Mr Wong's £6,000 Mini Cooper, inserting a television, video recorder and compact disc player in the walnut dashboard. But Mr Sibley was unable to fulfil one of Mr Wong's wishes. "He wanted to put an old-bakelite telephone in the door but we couldn't close it," he said. *(Reuter)*

Aid crimes

Belgrade: Madeleine Albright, the American ambassador to the United Nations said that blocking humanitarian aid in Bosnia should be investigated as a possible war crime. She also announced that ensuring free access for the convoys would influence the US Administration's thinking on when to lift sanctions against Serbia.

Mafia links

New York: Three members of the Gambino family — Giovanni Gambino, Giuseppe Gambino and Lorenzo Mannino — admitted to heroin trafficking and murder in a case revealing ties between the American and Sicilian mafia. The men will be sentenced to 15 years under a plea bargaining agreement. *(AP)*

Last surrender

New York: After nearly a quarter century on the run, during which he worked as a social worker with deprived children, Jeffrey Powell, a leader of the militant Weather Underground Vietnam protest group, has surrendered to Chicago police.

Inmates shot

Caracas: National guards shot dead at least nine inmates after this week's break-out from the Tocoron jail, the head of the Venezuelan Human Rights Commission said. He said he would ask for the soldiers to be prosecuted for multiple murder. *(AFP)*

Arm severed

Peoria, Illinois: A man working alone in his car workshop cut off his forearm with a pair of wire cutters to stop himself from bleeding to death after he got tangled in a machine. Glen Page, 49, got his hand caught while using a lathe. *(AP)*

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THOLIB 1

Inkatha leaders spurn election

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE Inkatha Freedom Party yesterday reiterated its opposition to South Africa's first all-race election unless changes are made in the new constitution.

Inkatha leaders, meeting in Ulundi, the capital of the KwaZulu black homeland, also said they rejected the new multiracial Transitional Executive Council that is helping the white government run the country until the election in April.

They said they would only change their position if the government and the African National Congress allow separate ballots for national and regional voting and eliminate a deadlock-breaking mechanism in the new constitution.

"Having examined the constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1993, the central committee resolves that the Inkatha Freedom Party will not participate in the April 27 elections and enter parliament or the provincial legislatures under the 1993 constitution," the party said in a statement.

Inkatha, the Zulu-dominated group led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, is part of the Freedom Alliance, an umbrella group of pro-apartheid whites and conservative blacks which wants to set up autonomous states free of rule by the ANC, which is expected to win the election. The Freedom Alliance boycotted talks that produced the new constitution, which they fear will allow the ANC to govern unchecked.

Separate ballots for national and regional elections would allow groups such as Inkatha, which has a strong support in Natal but little elsewhere, to concentrate in their home bases and gain control of regional governments. Freedom Alliance members believe a formula for breaking parliamentary deadlocks in the new constitution allows the ruling party to get its way.

Talks involving the alliance, the government and the ANC are expected to continue next week in an attempt to resolve the differences in timing of a possible special session of parliament, scheduled for January 24, that could approve changes in the new constitution. The government and ANC want a guarantee that the Freedom Alliance will take part in the April election, but the Inkatha statement yesterday rejected preconditions.



Buthelezi: wants state free of rule by ANC

☐ **Johannesburg:** Nine white men have been detained for questioning about the apparently racially motivated murder of three black commuters last month.

Mao era's cigarette bribes now cost a packet

■ Corruption among Chinese bureaucrats is endemic. Once tobacco and sexual favours were enough, but now the asking price can be cars, flats and foreign bank accounts

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

ALMOST 40 years ago, Mao Tse-tung conceded that any official could be bought with a packet of cigarettes. Those innocent days are gone; Chinese official corruption is now a major industry.

When an individual is accused, the Chinese look to see how high up he is in the official hierarchy. Every now and then a fairly high functionary, such as Li Shanyu, the Deputy Secretary-General of Hainan province, becomes an example of "beating the chicken to frighten the monkey" — a warning to those higher up. Mr Li has been sacked and expelled from the party, according to the official Chinese news agency, "for framing others, moral degeneration and accepting bribes".

More specifically, according to the report, Mr Li "led a fast life, cohabited with his mistress for a long time, and visited prostitutes, providing a very bad influence". Mr Li's disgrace, the report states, arose from a popular demand "to relentlessly ferret out corrupt elements hiding in the party and government . . . and expose their ugly faces and crimes to the light of day . . ."

Mere arrests will no longer suffice. Corruption in China is so endemic and prodigious that the party is spoofing Maoism to capture the attention of its hundreds of thousands of corrupt members. Years before he came to power, to justify the violence of peasants against landlords, Mao wrote: "A revolution is not like a dinner party, or doing embroidery, or such delicate tasks as that." Earlier this week the party's *People's Daily* turned Mao's aphorism on its head by saying: "Economic reform is not a dinner party" — a reference to the 100 billion yuan (£7.7 billion) in public funds spent annually on official banqueting and tours. This sum, the paper noted, would build China's biggest project, the Three Gorges dam in the Yangtze river. On Thursday another Peking paper, the *China Daily*, put the cost of the dam at more than 50 billion yuan, half the annual cost of cadre gorging. Several million Chinese children are too poor to attend school, the paper added, while officials eat in restaurants where one dish can cost £670. In a departure from its usual condemnation of foreign capitalists, the *People's Daily* noted that "quite a few millionaires abroad live a simple life".

The official news agency has just disclosed that 300,000 bureaucrats have stolen more than 826 million yuan over many years in one of China's poorest provinces, Anhui in the east of the country. The officials also accepted bribes, including the packets of cigarettes remarked on by Mao, prostitutes, foreign bank accounts, cars and flats. The bureaucrats used much of the money they embezzled to lend at high rates of interest, which until recently was not illegal. The report says that very few of the 300,000 officials have been prosecuted because most of them found legal loopholes to avoid charges.

China's enormous corruption, which reaches the families of the highest officials, is often blamed on the economic reforms unleashed by Deng Xiaoping in 1980, but in imperial times most officials routinely demanded bribes. The problem now is the enormous amount of money involved.

THE WORLD IN CARTOONS: GLIMPSING REALITY



Clockwise from the top: Europe's history so far by Chappatte in *L'Hebdo* of Lausanne; Yassir Arafat going up in the world, as seen by Gomaa in Cairo's *Al Alam Al Youm*; the genetic future, by Signe in the *Philadelphia Daily News*; Arcadio's view of Bosnia in Costa Rica's *La Nación*

Taking a trip on the back of a toad

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

IT IS a tale of toads and men, and one of the most powerful mind-bending drugs encountered by American drug enforcement agencies. In what is thought to be the first arrest of its kind, a California science teacher was booked last week for possession of bufotenine, a hallucinogen stronger than LSD that has to be milked *from the back of a toad*.

Bufotenine is produced by a gland on the back of the Sonoran Desert toad, *Bufo alvarius*, as a last line of defence against coyotes. When picked up by a coyote the toad puffs itself up with air, urinates, and finally squirts into the predator's mouth enough of the drug to intoxicate 150 adult humans.

Bob Sheppard and his wife, Connie, like parties. When the drug task force searched their house in Calaveras county, central California, they found marijuana and psychedelic mushrooms, but it was the toads it was after.

The Sheppards kept four of them, milking them once a month by squeezing the glands until they popped. They allowed the hallucinogen to crystallise by drying it on a mirror, then they smoked it in a pipe. "It looked like rock cocaine," said Agent G. "They told me when you inhale one hit of the pipe you'd better be close to somewhere you can sit down." Mr Sheppard says bufotenine is to the better known LSD as whisky is to milk.

Bufo alvarius is not rare — its habitat stretches from California and Arizona to central Mexico — but human consumption of its venom is almost unheard of in America. Rumours of toad abuse first reached Agent G last April when an informant hinted at a fad for licking toads.

Most of what Agent G knows about bufotenine he has learnt from Mr Sheppard, including that the drug was probably first used by the Aztecs. In acknowledgment of their co-operation, the Sheppards have been released on bail pending trial. Their toads are in the care of the California Department of Justice.

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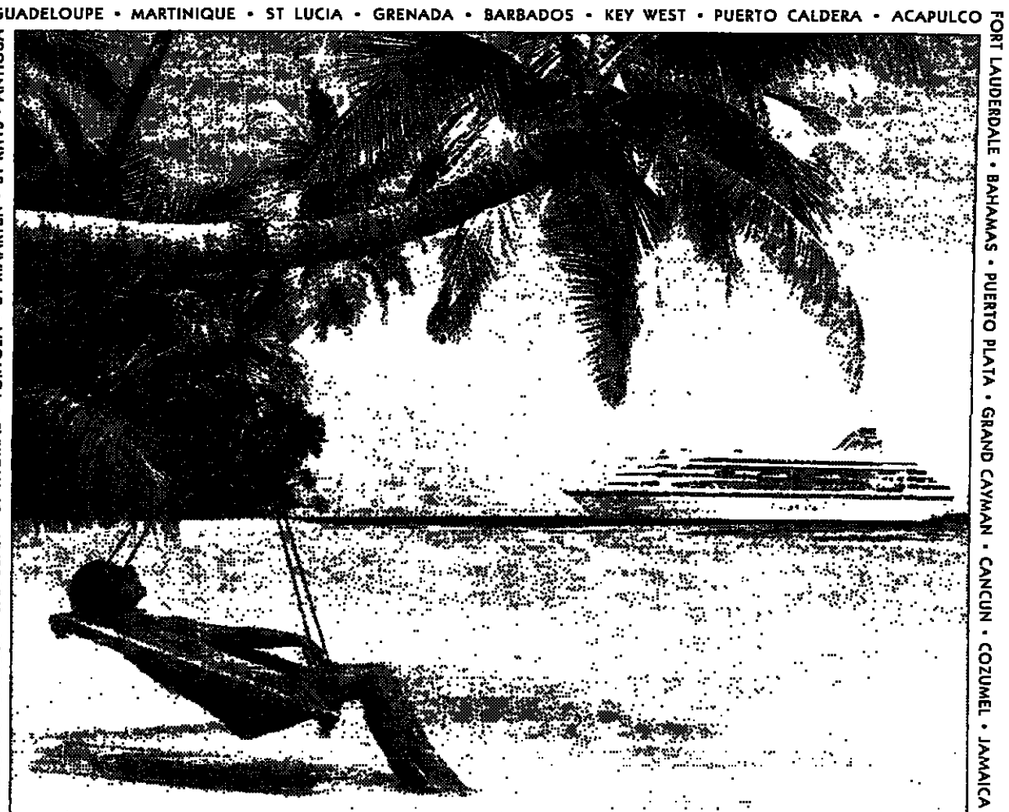
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Once patronised by their MPs, constituency ladies have come to rule the Tory Party with a vengeance, writes **Julian Critchley**

Suffolk woman calls the tune

First Essex man, and now Suffolk woman. Will the Tory party, which has been coloured by the first, now come under the thumb of the second? "Suffolk woman", as typified by Mayor Aldine Horrigan and party chairman Patricia Fitzpatrick, drove Mr Tim Yeo from office regardless of the wishes either of the Prime Minister (who played possum) and of Sir Norman Fowler (who nailed his tattered colours to the mast).

Mesdames Horrigan and Fitzpatrick, formidable women in late middle life, are typical "Tory women" of the sort who are not only to be glimpsed annually at a seaside resort out of season applauding the likes of Mr Peter Lilley, but the kind of party activist who, today, runs practically every Conservative constituency association. The men have long since fled the party, leaving their busy wives to fill the posts of "chairman", secretary, and, more likely than not, the agent. In the past, Tory ladies raised the money, but did not set the tone: since the flight of the men began in the 1980s, they have come to rule the roost.

In the past, Tory women of the kind that wore peculiar hats when listening to Mrs Thatcher were usually apolitical, their skills were harnessed to bazaars and bring-and-buys, their admiration for "the Member" was unqualified. If they had views, they generally kept them to themselves, or deferred to their hearty husbands. They could be moved, but only on subjects such as crime and punishment, when *en masse* they could be as terrible as an army with banners. They were as much in favour of the rod as of the rope. Ask any Conservative Home Secretary of recent years.

I suspect we Tories patronised them. At Westminster, the months of May, June and July were full of days in which busloads of Tory ladies, dressed to kill, sat on the terrace of the Commons guzzling strawberries and cream, while the famous, recruited for the occasion, processed from tea-room to terrace to receive the adulation they had come to expect. Our guests were the shy footsoldiers of the party: today, if the Yeo affair is any guide, they have become its commanding officers.

In Wednesday's papers, Mrs Aldine Horrigan was quoted as saying, "I was an enthusiastic supporter of Tim Yeo . . . I did all I could to support him in 1983. He has been a good constituency MP, and repaid our faith in him, although I would have liked to have seen more of him . . ." The implication that Mr Yeo, however "good" a constituency MP, has been less than an assiduous attender of Xmas fayres, fêtes and wine-and-cheese, must have brought a wry smile to the lips of Mr Yeo's parliamentary colleagues. Today, we are judged not by our speeches but by our social skills. Harold Macmillan's dictum that the MP is the Member for Eatanswill at Westminster and not the Member for Westminster at Eatanswill, has been turned smartly on its head.

Mr Yeo has fallen victim to John Major's "back to basics", a generalised appeal, unveiled at last year's party conference, into which anyone was free to inject any "basic" tenet he or she might hold. The attack on single mothers, orchestrated by John Redwood and Peter Lilley among others, gave the undertaking a "moral" flavour which was not intended. As the English find it difficult to draw a distinction between morality and sexual mores, *carte blanche* was given to all those in press and public alike who believe that there is no cupboard without its skeleton, nor any cupboard as large as those in the bedrooms of public men.

There has always been a Cromwellian tinge to Suffolk. Mrs Horrigan may "shoot from the hip" (the words are those of her husband), but what if her target is John Major's Government? She has also been quoted as saying of Tim Yeo, ". . . if the view of the constituency [she meant the Tory activists, the constituency has never been consulted] is that he should stand down altogether, I have to say that a by-election is a price well worth paying".

The mind boggles at the prospect of a spring by-election in which Mr Paddy Ashdown's Liberal Democrat candidate stands on an anti-adultery ticket against a Tory chosen presumably for her sex, age, and daunting respectability. But sadly, we will be denied such pleasures. Mrs Horrigan cannot compel Mr Yeo to apply for the Chiltern Hundreds, although it is certainly the case that she, and others of her regiment, can dictate to the Prime Minister the composition of his Government.

There can be no doubt that disenchantment is widespread among what can only be a diminishing number of Tory party activists. This is due to the intractability of most of the problems faced by the Government. There is little point in listing them here, but while Michael Howard can promise to "fight" crime, he is unable to abolish it.

Many party activists lost their seats at the recent district and county council elections, and some still hanker after Mrs Thatcher's so-called golden days, and a return to "Victorian virtues", by which we thought she meant sobriety, thrift, hard work and chastity, none of which was, on examination, either common to or exclusive to the Victorian period.

Hypocrisy was the most obvious Victorian "virtue".

Harold Macmillan never wore gaiters. Indeed, he once said that if the people want a moral lead, they should go to their bishops — a sentiment for which he was roundly attacked at the time. But he, too, was going back to "basics".

Mr Yeo was both foolish and unlucky. He should have resigned his office immediately. Instead, he provided news when there was none, and sport for the smug. He was cheerfully pursued across the damp fields of Suffolk by the hounds of the press and by stout parties in pink whose blood was up. And he now has to face the perils of deselection.

"Suffolk woman", unlovely perhaps, righteous certainly, is a force with which the party must reckon. She will provide the cavalry to Essex man's foot. In the meantime, and as the furore dies down, I will take comfort from my dictum that the only safe pleasure for a politician is a bag of boiled sweets.

The author is Conservative MP for Aldershot.

Ben Macintyre, in New York, accuses the American media of double standards on moral issues

No scandal here, we're Democrats

The latest accusations of philandering levelled at President Bill Clinton slipped in and out of public awareness so fast they did not even have time to earn the suffix now routinely attached to political embarrassments here.

A few hopeful souls tried to christen the episode "Troopergate", in honour of the state troopers who claimed they had helped arrange sexual trysts and then covered them up for the then governor of Arkansas. One radio host came up with the imaginative title of "Fornigate".

But this was no Irangate, nor even Nannygate or Gennifergate, and barely a fortnight after the charges bubbled up, they have been lost in a deafening media silence. The troopers have been unable to find a publisher for their book of revelations. This was Damp-squibgate.

Would that this signalled a revolution in American mores and a satiation with sexual exposés, but a glance at last week's news suggests the very opposite. Actress Roseanne Arnold announced she had been a prostitute *inter alia*; alleged Hollywood Madam Heidi Fleiss revealed and then unrevealed the names of some of her celebrity clients; newly-married Microsoft billionaire Bill Gates was accused of being a "Lothario", and Republican Senator Bob Packwood flailed desperately amid accusations that he had sexually harassed a total of 25 women.

All of these stories were reported, by the mainstream as well as the frivolous media, with lip-smacking salaciousness. Even reports of Mr Yeo's problems in faraway Britain outweighed the attention paid to Mr Clinton's alleged dalliances.

Certainly the latest assertions have the ring of familiarity, thanks to the groundwork done by Gennifer Flowers. True, they pale in significance next to the brewing storm over the Clintons' Arkansas land investments, to be known henceforth as Whitewatergate or Realestategate. But the principal reason for the lack of furore is good, old fashioned bias.

As Senator Packwood put it, a little incoherently, on Wednesday: "The news media has no desire of ever pursuing the other side." (He meant his side of the story, but the remark applies equally to his side of the political divide.)

The American media, which pride themselves to the point of inertia on objectivity while actually remaining staunchly Liberal, simply do not care to report on sexual misbehaviour by Democrats.

The press reaction to the Arkansas troopers' story, first published in the right-wing magazine *The American Spectator*, was muted, cautious and delayed. The heavyweight *Los Angeles Times* was pushed into publishing its own version of the story, which it had been sitting on for more than four months: *The New York Times* grudgingly offered a watered-down version, in which the writer archly pointed out that his paper was not a "supermarket tabloid" (this being the home-delivered non-tabloid that put Kitty Kelly's unattributed assertions about a liaison between Frank Sinatra and Nancy Reagan on its front page).

Instead, *The New York Times* last week published an attack on David Brock, author of the 11,000-word *American Spectator* article. Mr Brock is "a smear artist with a right-wing agenda . . . his motives are at least as twisted as his facts . . . out-of-control . . . irrational . . . trivialising," wrote columnist Frank Rich.

In its determination to be what it calls evenhanded, the press has managed to overlook almost entirely the more serious allegation: that Clinton offered the troopers jobs in exchange for their silence.

Now this is all very high-minded. In an ideal world without hypocrisy, we would not be sorting through the dirty laundry of any politician, of whatever complexion, and the *Spectator* piece certainly had a hysterical edge. But compare the forgiving attitude towards Democrat Clinton to the ethical scalding meted out to such right-of-centre figures as Clarence Thomas, Bob Packwood and John Tower, who was found, in Senator Sam Nunn's words, to be guilty of "indiscreet conduct towards women". If the subject is Republican, it seems, the offence is rank.

When former Washington mayor Marion Barry, a Democrat, was accused on drugs charges (and convicted on one count), the press was studiously fair, some might say bizarrely generous to a man who has since been elected a council member and rehabilitated to the point where another run for mayor does not seem impossible.

> The excuse for not investigating — lack of corroboration — is simply untrue

Democrat Gary Hart's sexual indiscretions were exposed only because he dared the media to do so.

The Wall Street Journal has been one of the few papers to point out that the widely-used justification for not following up the troopers' story — namely that it lacks corroboration — is simply untrue, particularly when compared to the meagre corroboration needed to launch all-out investigations in the past. Both *The LA Times* and *American Spectator* quote four troopers, two of them named. Watergate, lest we forget, was based on the evidence of one unidentified source.

Compare too the reaction in 1992 when George Bush was accused of having an affair with his secretary. This was one of the flimsiest stories imaginable, based on rumour, insinuation and without a single credible source, yet when it finally broke it rattled happily around the media for months.

Republicans tend to make more of their family values, so perhaps they deserve to be held to a higher moral code than their Democratic opponents, but that does not excuse the American media from claiming to follow one standard while two are plainly in operation.

When liberal American journalists (*ie* most of them) say they do not consider the evidence against Mr Clinton conclusive, what they mean is that they think he probably *is* guilty, but they do not mind. By a strange logical hiccup, it is almost expected and forgiveable for Democratic presidents to behave this way, a legacy from JFK, whose libido makes John Tower's "indiscreet conduct" look like pat-a-cake.

For an American mainstream journalist to voice the suspicion that the media have a left-leaning bias is an unforgivable blasphemy. One who did so recently was Emily Rooney, the first ever female executive producer of ABC World News, the most powerful news outlet in the America. She found as a result, to her mortification, that she was lauded by such right-wing pundits as talk-show host Rush Limbaugh. On Wednesday she was fired.

Will they nationalise families?

Pontificating about marriage and childbearing makes Tories look foolish



Puritanical strictures didn't work then either: a Methodist preacher forced to do public penance for adultery, in Norwich in 1759

Simon Jenkins

The parliamentary Conservative party emerges from the Yeo affair numb with shock. It cowers before the tabloid press. Who next will be shopped to the enemy? Who next will find the black spot under the plate? In the old days, when the club was a club, a gentleman knew what to do. The rules were clear. The pistol was in the drawer. Now the party is like a jaded mafia family. One member after another jumps up from the table screaming "Oh my God, no! Please boss, not me. I meant no harm!" He has to be bundled out of the room and wasted behind the garage. The bemused godfather dribbles down his tuxedo and moans, "Sad . . . purely private matter . . . none of my doing."

John Major was right when he said at the start that Mr Yeo's private life had no bearing on his ministerial duties. But then he should not have led the claque lecturing the public on their private lives at last October's party conference. "Family values" may have seemed a bland enough slogan at the time. A stopgap was needed while the Downing Street crew hunted for the Snark of Majorism. But was there ever a juicier hostage to media fortune than a personal morality campaign?

Even by Tory standards, last October was reckless. The message was clear. The party regards single-parent families as morally defective. One parent is less able than two to "know the difference between right and wrong," as ministers parroted to each other. The two-parent family is not just the norm but a social policy imperative. "What action can be taken," asked Michael Portillo ominously, "to reduce pregnancy among those not wishing or not ready to start family life?"

I suppose the logical answer to Mr Portillo is compulsory state abortion. Teenage mothers tend to have broken relationships, and their children suffer various disadvantages. Perhaps society would be better off without them. Let them join menopausal mothers in the purgatory of 1990s Toryism. To save money on child support, the Government has nationalised divorce (through the Child Support Agency). Is it about to mimic Stalin and nationalise marriage too?

I presume not, for the campaign is cosmetic and cynical. What is most dire is the assumption behind it that there is an upsurge of morally neutered citizens, flouting convention by having babies to sponge off the state. Where are they? Certainly accidents happen, though contraception and cheap abortion mean that few babies nowadays can truly be unintended by the mother. Hurling abuse at absent fathers, by whom the babies may well have been unwanted, is not going to bring them into shotgun marriages. Hurling abuse at the mothers is pointless and callous.

Few mothers do not think before bearing a child. Few single parents — whether unmarried, divorced or widowed — are careless of their children's fate. My observation is that they worry more deeply about the obligations of parenthood than many conventional families do. The decision of a woman to bring up a child on her own, rather than abort it or enter a doomed marriage, is a supreme exercise of choice. If anything it shows a respect for marriage, not contempt for it. Certainly it requires a courageous commitment to motherhood. Single parents give every bit as much love and attention to children as busy couples with large families, possibly more. Of course there are exceptions, but to claim that a single parent is inherently a worse parent is both incorrect and offensive to millions of responsible men and women.

I believe politicians merely look foolish when they tell private citizens how to order this aspect of their lives. Social historians such as Peter Laslett and Ferdinand Mount have charted the continuity of marital relations since the dawn of time, amid constant attempts by both church and state to regulate it. Divorce may be made easier or harder. Bastardy may be condoned or stigmatised. Raising children in a nuclear family seems to be a fairly constant feature of human intercourse, but so too does the regular breakdown of such families. The sanction of the law or of religious damnation makes little impact on this intimate and difficult relationship. Most people's practice of marriage, Mount rightly points out, is not as defined by church or state. It is simply as "the most natural and preferable of social arrangements". Its appeal is that it is voluntary, private and adaptable even to destruction.

Nor has marriage ever enjoyed a monopoly on procreation. As Laslett writes, extramarital births were stigmatised with the growth of Puritanism and the Counter-reformation but not before. The stigma became widespread only in the 19th and 20th centuries and has diminished since the 1960s. This recent tolerance must surely be welcome, as is the decline of the foundling movement and the shortage of babies for adoption. Fewer single women bring unwanted babies into the world, but when they do, they wish to cherish them, alongside mothers of "wanted" babies.

Certainly the welfare state has made this independence easier to contemplate. But the welfare state is not a moral policeman. And even under the welfare state, a baby cared for at home is cheaper than one in an orphanage. The generalisation that children of single parents are deprived may or may not apply. But a century of official calumny, of parent and child alike, has not stamped out illegitimacy. To revive the stigma in the hope that it might be an incentive to "moral parenting" is surely futile. To revive it in the hope of thereby cutting public spending is cruel.

If child support is too expensive, if housing priorities are askew, if health care is out of control, then government should use the appropriate axe. To be sure, any change in spending will reflect changed assumptions, but those assumptions should be based on equity, on fairness to individuals, not on the proclaimed moral superiority of one person over another. We do not throw dangerous drivers or smokers with lung cancer out of hospital onto the street — at least not yet.

The British family will survive this latest attempt to bend it to the service of politics. It will survive with its single and dual parents, its gifted and deprived children, its joys, infidelities and divorces, even its sham attempts at regulation. The institution is a timeless wonder, a bastion of privacy against the enveloping state. Last October a desperate political party thought the family was up for grabs. What a mistake.

Politicians might now get back to their own basics. They should see if they can draft an education bill that works, or an Ulster agreement that means a thing.

Not blazing but drowning

MATTHEW BOND DIARY

THE GODS, it appears, are not happy. Mortals bake in temperatures of 115 degrees. Skies grow dark with smoke from 100 fiercely burning bush-fires. Hell on earth? Or Australia? It's been a close call this week.

Only when Fanie de Villiers claimed the wicket of Glenn McGrath and victory for South Africa was the matter put beyond doubt. As one, the crowd at the Sydney cricket ground turned their eyes skyward and cried: "Jeez God, why've yooz foresaken us?"

Much of the reply was lost in the accompanying clap of thunder, but one word fairly echoed around the stands — "Keating". Then it was straight back to 115 degrees for a little while longer.

Those of us in the northern hemisphere, however, have nothing to feel smug about. For there's been a distinctly Old Testament feel about events here too — an eye for an eye, a Yeo for a Stent. Here the gods opted for the well-practised punishment of the deluge. They may not have stuck rigidly to the original 40 days and 40 nights recipe, but the wettest December for 15 years and what feels like the dampest start to a New Year ever have proved just as effective.

Nor has there been any shortage of foolish people who, if they heareth the message, doeth it not. Like the gentleman from the National Rivers Authority in Kent who felt the moment appropriate to remind a sodden populace that the county will still be on drought alert this summer. Let he who wishes to cast the first stone . . . join the queue.

In nearby West Sussex, the identity of those misguided individuals who built their houses upon the sand was fast becoming apparent. As the rain descended and the floods came, great indeed was the fall of the village of Franklands. As the storms continue, many have been turning to prayer for comfort. "Good Lord deliver us. From fornication and all other deadly . . ." — oops, sorry, wrong one, that's someone else's theme today. Ah, here we are: "From lightning and tempest, Good Lord, deliver us." Amen to that.

In short, it's been the sort of week when barely an eyebrow was raised when John Patten admitted to being flogged by Jesuits. Indeed, when it was subsequently revealed that the instrument chosen to inflict corporal punishment upon the future Education Secretary was a piece of whalebone covered in leather, one almost expected Jonah to be brandishing it. But instead, here was Sir Ron Dearing, brandishing his proposals for reforming the national curriculum which had been in place — ooh, all of five years. Sir Ron's revisions coincided with a paper presented to the British Geographers revealing that an exodus of middle-class professionals to France had been led by teachers — ooh, all of five years ago.

With the inundation continuing, the tribes that remain this side of the Channel have been desperately seeking a sign, any sign, of salvation. A brief glimmer of hope flickered in Knightsbridge, where encouragingly curious events were afoot. A man from across the sea arrived, flanked by Scottish pipers, Tibetan monks — and Miss United Kingdom. Could this be a new messiah, murmured the assembled throng? No, it was Richard Gere opening the Harrods sale.

The glimmer of hope emanating from North Wales flickered more strongly, where a young man who had spent a good 40 days on an escorted pilgrimage to far-off lands returned talking in tongues. He thought the pyramids "nothing special" and Cairo "totally disgusting rubbish". As for camels, they were "no good, painful". But Victoria Falls, according to the visionary from Bryn Melyn, was "excellent — God's creation, man hadn't touched it". He even toyed with a little prophecy: "If man does touch, it will be destroyed." Never mind Damascus, this was conversion on the all-expenses-paid trip to Harare.

But with the judicial process detaining such aspirant messiahs at its pleasure, alternative routes to salvation have been explored — such as sacrifice. And so it came to pass that two Suffolk hand-maidens, Aldine and Patricia, dragged their reluctant male victim to the place of dispatch. Suddenly, a clap of thunder rang out and a voice from on high passed comment on the struggle below: "Seems to be having trouble getting his leg over in time."

A wheezy, high pitched thunderclap echoed round the sky for what seemed an age, before another voice spluttered forth between giggles: "Oh Aggers, do stop it."

From this bleak, Johnners-less winter, good Lord deliver us. Soon?

BACKLASH TO BASICS

Mr Major's future may be less secure than he hopes

eading off to their constituencies for ristmas, Conservative MPs were in a unty mood. The panic of the autumn was hind them; the Budget was acclaimed; the ime Minister had regained personal auth-ity and support from his party; political ccess would surely follow economic recov-y. Now, as MPs trickle back to West-inster, they are starting to worry all over gain. Is the scenario really as rosy for the ew Year as they believed at the end of the ld?

John Major may still think that it is. aving scraped through the party con-rence, before which his leadership had en imperilled, the Prime Minister em-rked on a strategy for survival. He had a ew framework for the presentation of vernment policy: "back to basics". He unched himself into statesmanlike activ-es — notably the Irish initiative — which ould not only make the Government look mpetent but reflect well on himself. He ew that this May's Euro and local ections could be disastrous, but he hoped blame the results on April's tax rises, ortraying his Government as one that did t shrink from taking unpopular but cessary decisions. By the summer, his sition would be secure enough for him to ad the party into the next general election. His wish could yet come true, particularly electoral support for the Tories begins to se. The polls, the polls: they may be widely rided by politicians in public, but are still ed in private as the main measure of ccess of a Prime Minister. Even if the overnment does remain temporarily stuck a mid-term trough, the Conservative rty still needs to rediscover its stomach for fight; it was the overwhelming absence of e that saved Mr Major in October.

But still there is an sense of unease in the rty, and it has been caused not by Tim e's behaviour, but by what it tells people ain about their Prime Minister. First, he ok a short-term risk by launching "back to sics" at all. It was an almost Faustian pact with his activists: if he gave them the populist policies they wanted and which no previous Prime Minister had been willing to concede, they would grant him their support. But being too weak to control the "bastards" in his Cabinet, Mr Major allowed them to encroach far further into personal morality than he might have preferred. There was always the risk that one of his ministers would be found out breaching the very principles that his colleagues were preaching.

The next mistake was not to sack Mr Yeo at once. The minister was never going to be able to stay in his post: the party and its voters would see his behaviour as hypocritical at best. Mr Major procrastinated, sending the message that he did not really believe the contents of his own speeches. By allowing Mr Yeo's constituency party effectively to determine the make-up of his Government, he came out of the affair looking again to be uncertain and weak. To disown then the main tenets of his publicly professed philosophy merely compounded the effect.

Many Tory activists now feel let down by the Prime Minister. They may not have a formal vote in any leadership election but, after the rancour the party experienced when Baroness Thatcher was deposed against the wishes of the constituencies, their support is at least material. Many of them will lose seats in May's local elections not because they have governed badly but because Mr Major has. The yearning for unity that they expressed last October may soon be superseded by a yearning for better and more trustworthy leadership.

Among the true electorate, the Tory MPs, the desire is still for a leader with competence, sure-footedness and a sense of direction. What they dread is that the Government, as for much of the past 16 months, will lurch from one disaster to another. If Mr Major does not get a grip between now and May, an electoral debacle then will be blamed not on tax rises but on him. The glowing embers of last autumn will be fanned into flames again.



FERTILE DISCUSSION

A once private sadness has become a public dilemma

ven the case-hardened members of the uman Fertilisation and Embryology Au-ority have been disturbed by the pace of ientific developments in their field. cording to their chairman, Professor Sir olin Campbell, the idea of using human gs from aborted female foetuses caused em "unease, distaste and surprise". Their ll for a public debate on the ethical and gal implications of such procedures must ot go unanswered.

The curing of infertility has now gone far eyond the bounds of simply enabling a ouple to produce their own biological child the conventional way. Artificial insemina-on has long meant that life need not begin ith an act of sexual congress between a otential parent couple. After the dev-lopment of artificial insemination by donor woman could even be impregnated by the perm of an anonymous man rather than iat of her husband (who would become the hild's legal father). If these methods seemed ometimes distasteful, they still fell within ne bounds of what most people considered cceptable — perhaps because after in-emination, the conception and pregnancy roceeded normally and the physical elationship of the mother to her baby was naffected.

The possibilities raised by such techniques s test tube fertilisation — which made ossible the creation of embryos outside a voman's body — suggested that science was ntering into more controversial territory. With the possibility now of female egg donation — which makes the pregnant woman a surrogate mother — a new set of ethical questions arises. Human eggs may be taken from the ovarian tissue of any female donor, including one who has died or never lived (in the case of aborted female foetuses). The ability to extract and store a supply of eggs from mature or aborted ovaries is reported to be only a few years away.

The HFEA paper suggests a number of areas of moral and legal controversy as starting points for discussion. The use of genetic material from foetuses could give rise to a market in aborted embryos. This could lead to abortions — or pregnancies for the purpose of abortion — being encouraged. Alternatively, abortions could be delayed until foetuses were of most use. Strict safeguards would be needed to prevent embryos being "farmed" and to ensure that consent was legally protected.

Using ovarian tissue from cadavers has Frankensteinian overtones. But ethically how much more controversial is it than the use of any organ for transplant after the death of a voluntary donor? Would the psychological consequences for a child born of a "dead" mother — or even one who never lived — be better if egg donations were anonymous? Sources of donation would then have to be made untraceable to avoid trauma, and the gaining of legal consent might be too intrusive to be acceptable.

The HFEA is aware that the use of donated eggs and ovarian tissue raises new possibilities of genetic manipulation and experimentation. It has demonstrated a fitting humility in calling for far-reaching public debate on their consequences.

IN PRAISE OF CHANGEABLE

Other countries have climates, but Britain has the weather

As usual the snap of wintry weather has caught the country by surprise. Many schools in the south of England were closed yesterday, having only just reopened after the Christmas holidays; roads were littered with jackknifed lorries, the roadsides plaintive with stranded motorists; a motorway north from London was brought to a stop by a sudden six inches of snowfall; in Essex a fish-lorry skidded and closed the road thigh-deep with 20 tons of sprats chilled on black ice. Bossy spokesmen for the police and motoring organisations searched their thesauruses for synonyms for "diabolical", and made the flesh of listeners creep with warnings that they should drive only if their journeys were absolutely necessary.

As is usual, however, with the British winter, many were cold but few were frozen. There is a cherished national myth that British weather is peculiarly diabolical. In fact, this is a temperate offshore island between the Atlantic and the huge landmass that stretches to Siberia and the Arctic. The climate is moderate and agreeable, never inflicting the extremes of weather suffered by countries less fortunate in their geography.

In spite of the traditional jokes about the rain in Manchester or the horizontal Scotch mist and North Sea haar, three times as much rain falls on New Zealand and nearly four times as much on Hong Kong as on the United Kingdom, which has a lower annual rainfall than Italy or Australia. The average temperature throughout the British year is 10° Centigrade, about the same as in Switzerland, Israel or Germany, countries generally believed to enjoy better weather.

What is special about the British climate, because of its position between competing weather systems, is its constant changeability and unpredictability. This may explain the national preoccupation with the reliability and sex appeal of weather girls on television, as householders yesterday shovelled a foot of "partly cloudy with sunny intervals" off their doorsteps. Sir William Eden, the eccentric father of the former prime minister, was once so irritated by this mutability that he threw his barometer, still indicating "Fair", through the window without bothering to open it first, with the cry, "There, you damned fool, see for yourself!"

The uncertainty principle of English weather, which would have confirmed Werner Heisenberg's darkest suspicions about the unpredictability of Nature, is its glory. In less fortunate climates inhabitants know to the day what the weather will be six months ahead. In the United Kingdom the only way of finding out what the weather is doing at any time of day or year is to go outside, and look up quickly before it changes its mind. From the indeterminacy of the weather comes the interest of native painters in cloudy skies, and of native poets in wind and rain, perhaps even the light and shade of the British character itself.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Ethical and emotional aspects of assisted conception

From Professor Ian D. Cooke and Dr Sheila M. Cooke

Sir, The Archbishop of York (letter, January 5) in referring to the "few unfortunate people" whose desire for a child leads them to seek donated gametes (sperm or egg) displays little appreciation of the pain of childlessness.

About 3,000 couples seek donor insemination each year in the UK. Those requiring treatment have either gametes with grossly inadequate function or no gametes at all. Yet the National Health Service offers extremely restricted treatment facilities; sophisticated techniques avoiding the use of donor sperm, such as operative recovery of husband's sperm and/or direct single sperm injection into an egg, are not available.

All treatment in the UK is provided under the aegis of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), whose code of practice instructs counsellors to discuss with parents the need of the child to know its origins, and all clinics take great pains, prior to treatment, to ensure understanding and commitment in their recipient couples. The Archbishop's "continuum of love, sexual intercourse, gestation and parental care" is at least as important to these couples as it is to fertile individuals.

A national donor insemination network, recently shown in a BBC documentary, has been established by parents concerned to tell their children their origin by donated sperm. There is movement of opinion in this and other countries towards identification of the donor. His identity is already recorded by the HFEA.

Revelation of this information from future donors will require changes in the attitudes of society and in the law, and this will take time. Funding agencies for research involving the new reproductive technologies demand ethical clearance from the HFEA and the local Research Ethics Committee before considering a proposal, so rigorous ethical review is already mandatory. Sadly, the Archbishop seems to perceive no good accruing to those seeking or providing treatment with donor gametes.

We would be happy to receive the Archbishop in our clinic where exposure to reality should allow him to temper his theoretical arguments with a more compassionate understanding of the problems.

Yours faithfully,
IAN D. COOKE,
SHEILA M. S. COOKE,
University Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,
Jessop Hospital for Women,
Leavygreave Road, Sheffield 3.
January 6.

From the Director of the Linacre Centre

Sir, Dr Habgood's concern over the social consequences of furthering "a mechanistic and consumer-orientated approach" to the "basic human experience" of conceiving and bearing children is welcome.

So too is his concern for the moral integrity of this experience and for what he calls "the normal continuum of love, sexual intercourse, gestation and parental care".

However, that continuum is disrupted not only by the use of donor gametes in assisted conception but also by the very techniques of in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) and gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT), which are frequently employed in assisting married couples to conceive children using only their own gametes.

These techniques involve the manipulative control of human gametes by doctors and others, and it is the exercise of that kind of manipulative control which is at the root of the view that it is appropriate to produce "designer" babies.

Dr Habgood writes as if the Christian churches were agreed in disapproving assisted conception with donor gametes while approving all forms of assisted conception with a couple's own gametes. This is misleading.

The Catholic position, which goes to the real heart of present difficulties, is that children should be conceived only as a direct consequence of marital intercourse. It is the breach of that norm in the use of the new tehniques which establishes the bitter root of a consumer-orientated approach to children.

Yours etc,
LUKE GORMALLY, Director,
The Linacre Centre for Health Care Ethics,
60 Grove End Road, NW8.
January 5.

From Miss Clare Dimond

Sir, Aileen Ballantyne ("My baby's brave new world", January 4) gives the theoretical example of a young lawyer freezing her ovarian tissue in order that she may have both a child and a successful career. Rather than mess around with embryology could we not introduce child care to the workplace? Or would that raise too many ethical problems?

Yours faithfully,
C. DIMOND,
16 Highfields, Llandaf, Cardiff.
January 4.

Chewable treats for church mice

From Dr John Clayton

Sir, Mr Bevis Brock's fears of an epidemic of mindless violence in the rodent population after damage to a church organ (letter, January 1) are groundless.

I understand that the teeth of rodents continue to grow in the same way as do our fingernails and that the rodents' gnawing of substances of suitable hardness is analogous to humans cutting their nails, serving the same purpose of preventing them from becoming too long.

There is a precedent for mice in the organ, for on the night of December 23, 1818, it was discovered that mice had gnawed through the bellows of the organ in the church of Oberndorf near Salzburg. So that there would be music on Christmas Day the priest, Joseph Mohr, composed a carol which the organist, Franz Gruber, set to music for two voices and a simple children's chorus. This was "Silent Night".

Perhaps Mr Brock could be persuaded to bend his talents to composing a carol using a scale deprived of his seven gnawed black notes.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CLAYTON,
Knapp House, 26 White Street,
Market Lavington,
Devizes, Wiltshire.
January 2.

From Mr Robert Shaftoe

Sir, As an organ builder practising in a rural area, I know that mouse damage to church organs is quite common. Mice grown plump on the largess of harvest festival offerings soon become desperate once it has all been cleared away.

One local organ had all the maple stoppers carefully nibbled off the tops of a whole rank of pipes, quite a feat of acrobatics. Unaware of the high lead content, the mice cheerfully gnaw holes in metal pipes. Ebony sharps, as mentioned by Mr Brock, are another treat. One of their favourite tricks is to gnaw holes in the sheepskin of the bellows, invariably where it is impossible to glue a patch.

No doubt science will have some boring explanation for their behaviour. I suspect they have a malicious sense of humour.

Yours,
ROBERT SHAFTOE,
The Chapel, Park Road,
Stevington, Bedford.
January 1.

From Mr Graham Matthews

Sir, The motivation for the "strangely selective diet" of ebony organ keys is more sinister than may be apparent at the keyboard. The mice are practising: they are sharpening their teeth before attacking all the luscious leather parts of the organ hidden from view.

The renowned poverty of church mice is not lack of money but lack of nourishment. Watch out for anything tasty. The candles will be next.

Yours sincerely,
GRAHAM MATTHEWS,
14 Crofton Rise, Dronfield,
Nr Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
January 1.

From Mr Richard Godfrey

Sir, Mr Bevis Brock's letter reminds me of two instances when I found mice not only eating and sharpening their teeth on working organ pipes, but actually nesting amongst them.

On both occasions, once in West Africa and once in Wiltshire, the nesting material consisted entirely of pages torn from *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (standard version). Bibles (authorised version) were equally available beside both the organs in question, but were left untouched. Not such mindless vandalism?

Yours sincerely,
RICHARD GODFREY,
The Wardenry, Farley,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

From Commander H. M. A. Hayes, RN (retd)

Sir, For years my wife pounded away on the harmonium in a variety of Royal Navy chapels. She remembers with particular poignancy one instrument dating from the early years of the century, which boasted on engraved metal plates that it was equipped with "mouse-proof pedals".

It certainly showed no signs of rodent attack, though it was sadly deficient as a musical instrument.

Yours faithfully,
MURRAY HAYES,
Post Cottage, Front Street,
Tealby, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire.

From Mr George C. Aitken

Sir, Churchwarden Brock's letter is proof positive of the proverbial "back-to-basics" standard of poverty. If reduced to this, church mice are indeed poor.

Mine here, also rural, have more sporting and agricultural tastes — the cork handle of a salmon rod and the plastic rotor guard of a grass trimmer.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE C. AITKEN,
Whitrig, Coldstream, Berwickshire.

From Councillor R. C. Usher

Sir, Could not the mice in question have been looking for a suitable Flat?

Yours faithfully,
R. C. USHER,
34 Fulbert Drive,
Bearsted, Maidstone, Kent.

Classical Top Ten

From Mr David Chesterman

Sir, Analysis of all symphonies or movements from them played during 1993 in London's Royal Albert, Royal Festival, Barbican and Queen Elizabeth Halls and St John's Smith Square shows that Beethoven, with 44, retains the lead, Mozart again being runner-up with 36.

Mahler has climbed to third place with 21 plus two movements ("What the wild flowers tell me" from No 3 and Adagietto from No 5), while Shostakovich has had an excellent year with 21. Haydn and Tchaikovsky are equal fifth with 20 apiece, Dvorak drops to 18, Schubert rises to 16. Brahms and Sibelius bring up the rear with 12 each, both down on last year. There is no difference in the identities of the Top Ten, only in some positions. For the first time the overall winner is Beethoven's *Pastoral* (12 times).

Yours sincerely,
DAVID CHESTERMAN,
15 Shire Lane,
Chorleywood, Hertfordshire.

Boarding preferred

From Mr John Morris

Sir, Lynne Truss (Arts, January 5) describes the *40 Minutes* programme, "The Making of Them", as clever and subtle. Clever it may have been. Subtle it was not, so obviously editing its material to present a hostile view of boarding prep schools; and serving as a vehicle for a sad and unrepresentative minority of former pupils, 30 years out of date. A recent survey showed 84 per cent of prep school boarders prefer boarding. Is such clear satisfaction with the vast majority of boarding prep schools too wholesome for TV documentaries?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MORRIS (General Secretary),
Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools,
11 Waterloo Place,
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.
January 5.

Role reversal

From Lieutenant Commander J. H. McGivering, RNR (retd)

Sir, "Norma Major, that most reluctant of first ladies ..." Is your Diarist (January 4) confusing Downing Street with Buckingham Palace or the Garden of Eden?

Your obedient servant,
J. H. McGIVERING,
32 Cheltenham Place,
Brighton, East Sussex.

Honest attitudes towards the Jews

From the President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews

Sir, The remarkable character of Lord Rees-Mogg's impressive article, "Let us apologise to the Jews" (January 3), is not to be tested only by its language of apology or its spirit of contrition, important though such qualities undoubtedly are. Its ultimate nobility should be measured by its underlying frankness, which seeks to cut through centuries of adverse indoctrination.

The signing in Jerusalem by Israel and the Vatican of an agreement for diplomatic relations (report, December 31) and the accompanying statements are not so much a culmination as significant parts of the process of a beginning. While retaining other distinctive identities and traditions, the Church and Judaism, with their monotheistic faiths, have much to do in this increasingly secularised world to stem the tides of despair, dissolution and racism.

We are the children of one Father. Your distinguished correspondent has performed an invaluable service.

Yours faithfully,
ISRAEL FINESTEIN, President,
Board of Deputies of British Jews,
Woburn House,
Tavistock Square, WC1.
January 6.

From Mr G. B. Kelly

Sir, William Rees-Mogg writes: "The Jewish and Catholic traditions have two things in common: they both really believe in God and ... in the moral law." It can scarcely have escaped his notice that the Jewish and Catholic traditions have, also, two things which fundamentally separate them, namely: Jewish belief in a singular God and Catholic belief in a triune God; and the Jewish rejection of Christ, the Second Person of the Trinity, as the Messiah — which is the source and origin of Christianity.

Catholicism *per se* has always opposed anti-Semitism. But Catholics cannot be blamed for the facts of history nor can they be unsaid: "Crucify him, crucify him ... we have no other king but Caesar" (John xix, 6, 15).

Not the public forum but the private, singular confessional is the right place for Catholics to repent and firmly promise amendment for sins of charity against their neighbour.

Yours truly,
G. B. KELLY,
36 Great Furlong, Bishopsteignton,
Teignmouth, Devon.
January 3.

From Professor Emeritus Glyn Emery

Sir, In describing atheism as "destructive in the modern world", William Rees-Mogg exhibits the same uninformed prejudice towards atheists as his predecessors towards Jews.

Yours faithfully,
GLYN EMERY,
134 Northchurch Road, N1.
January 4.

Piping on the march

From Mr Robert McLean

Sir, It was a little surprising and somewhat strange that *The Times*, which over many years has featured interesting and informative articles about pipers and piping, should have among its talented contributors someone who in your third leader of December 30 writes: "Giving one's true love six geese a-laying, or 11 pipers playing (whether Scots, Irish or Galician) would be an act of some considerable cruelty."

Today's leader ("With the arrival of the pipers ... the obsessive bounty of the true love takes on a threatening note") merely adds insult to the injury you have inflicted on the world's piping community.

Is it only those three races you specify whose music spreads cruelty around? What about the Greek tsambouna, the Egyptian zumarah or the Italian zampogna, the pipers of Arabia, the Indian continent, the Far East, the USA and what was once the British Empire? What about your own English pipers of Northumbria? It all sounds like a very cruel world!

Some readers will remember Major George Millar of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, one of the most distinguished bandmasters that regiment has ever had, who held the opinion that the bagpipe, along with the fife and drum, is superior to all other instruments for soldiers on the march.

Millar stressed the point in a letter to *The Times* of April 5, 1915, reminding his readers that "these combinations can touch spots which are beyond the reach of a band; and moreover there is no suggestion of effort in their performance, however long a march may be. It is all so very enjoyable". Not even a hint of cruelty there!

But as the Scots and Irish pipers play their lament in Whitehall next Remembrance Day let us remember the cruelty of war itself, and the brave pipers, many of whom were among those who fell in battle.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT McLEAN,
44 Cross Road, Tadworth, Surrey.
January 5.

Saving the bears

From Mr Victor Watkins

Sir, I am pleased that Bernard Levin has joined the chorus of disapproval of cruelty to bears ("The necessity of bears", December 28). As the perpetrators of the "kidnap" of Turkey's dancing bears, to which he referred, Libearty, the world campaign for bears run by the World Society for the Protection of Animals, welcomes such celebrated support.

Libearty was fully supported by the Turkish authorities. Although appreciating the problem and the resulting threats to the wild population, the Turks did not know how to rescue the more than 100 dancing bears used to entertain foreign tourists (yes, we're to blame!) until Libearty built its Turkish sanctuary.

Mr Levin also mentioned bear-baiting, outlawed in Britain in 1835. Sadly, the practice continues in Pakistan, where two pit bulls are set on howling, clawless bears for bouts of two minutes. This was the focus of a campaign by Libearty in March. In response, the new Pakistan government announced that it was cracking down on this horrific "sport". We await proof. Meanwhile, in the Pyrenees the argument continues whether or not to build a road while the number of bears, now only 12, continues to dwindle.

All eight bear species are under threat. We say we love them — as teddies, as cartoon characters, as Goldilocks's friends. Yet we keep the real thing in tiny crates and tap their gall bladders for medicine, we make them fight, dance and ride bicycles for our own fun and destroy their habitats.

We need all the Bernard Levins we can get!

Best wishes,
VICTOR WATKINS
(Director), Libearty,
World Society for the Protection of Animals,
2 Langley Lane, SW8.

From Dr Eric Chamberlain

Sir, Some 15 years ago I was assisting in a survey of the safety of coal-mining in Spitzbergen. I asked for a record of incidents over the previous 12 months. In a commendably short list the last entry was: "Two fatalities due to injuries inflicted by polar bears."

Yours faithfully,
ERIC CHAMBERLAIN,
13 The Avenue,
Northwood, Middlesex.

Weekend Money letters, page 27

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

SOCIAL NEWS

Weekend birthdays

Today

Miss Shirley Bassey, singer, 57; Mr David Bowie, singer and actor, 47; Mr John C. Cahill, chairman, British Aerospace, 64; Mr S.G. Cameron, former chairman, Gallaher, 70; Sir Maxwell Entwistle, former chairman, Merseyside Development Committee, 84; Major-General J.R. Holden, 81; Lord Hollenden, 80; Mr Andrew Hunter, MP, 51; Mr Howard Jones, governor, Belmarsh Prison, 58; the Right Rev E.G. Knapp-Fisher, former Archdeacon of Westminster, 79; Air Commodore Joan Metcalfe, former director, RAF Nursing Services, 71; Mr Ron Moody, actor, 70;
Mr Robert Parry, MP, 61; Mr D.E. Prince, headmaster, Reed's School, Surrey, 56; Mr Ken Purchase, MP, 55; Mrs I.M. Read, MEP, 55; Professor W.B. Reddaway, economist, 81; Miss Galina Ulanova, prima ballerina, 84; Mr G.H. Whalen, deputy chairman and managing-director, Peugeot Talbot Motor Company, 55; Professor A.G. Wilson, vice-chancellor, Leeds University, 55.

Tomorrow

Major D.S. Allhusen, equestrian Olympic medallist, 80; Mr Justice Alliott, 62; Miss Joan Baez, folk singer, 53; Mr Hugh Bayley, MP, 42; Mrs M.L.S. Bennett, former principal, St Hilda's College, Oxford, 81; Mr Harvey Betram-Brown, fashion designer, 28; Mr Ken Brown, golfer, 37; Sir John Buckley, former chairman, Davy Corporation, 81; the Earl of Carrick, 41; Mrs Christine Crawley, MEP, 44; Mr Clive Dunn, actor, 72; Sir Tony Durant, MP, 66; Sir Graham Eyre, QC, 63; Mr Michael Gifford, chief executive and managing director, Rank Organisation, 58; Father Benedict Green, theologian, 70; Mr Terry Hands, theatre and opera director, 53; Mr David Holbrook, author, 71; Mr L.J. Holliday, former chairman, John Laing Construction, 73; Mr Raymond Horrocks, chairman, Chloride Group, 64; Professor Sir Alec Jeffreys, geneticist, 44; Sir Michael Jenkins, diplomat, 58; Mr Simon Jervis, director, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, 51; Mr Richard Nixon, former President of the United States, 81; Mr Justice Ognall, 60; Miss Joely Richardson, actress, 29; Mr Ralph Tubbs, architect, 82; Mr Derek Twiner, former governor, Canterbury Prison, 54; Viscount Ullswater, 52; Mr Geoffrey Wragg, racehorse trainer, 64; Miss Susannah York, actress, 52.



Professor Stephen Hawking is 52 today



Sir Rudolf Bing, former general manager of the Metropolitan Opera, New York, is 92 tomorrow

Anniversaries

Today

BIRTHS: Philip Astley, theatre manager, Newcastle-under-Lyme, 1742; Alfred Wallace, naturalist, Usk, Gwent, 1823; Wilkie Collins, novelist, London, 1824; Hans von Bulow, pianist and conductor, Dresden, 1830; Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, painter, The Netherlands, 1836; John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister 1941-45, Creswick, Victoria, 1885; Solomon Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of Ceylon 1956-59, Colombo, 1899; Elvis Presley, singer and actor, Tupelo, Mississippi, 1935.

DEATHS: Edgar, King of Scotland reigned 1097-1107, Edinburgh Castle, 1107; Giotto, painter, Florence, 1337; Galileo Galilei, mathematician and astronomer, Arcetri, Italy, 1642; Arcangello Corelli, composer, Rome, 1713; John Baskerville, typographer and printer, London, 1775; Eli Whitney, pioneer of the cotton gin, New Haven, Connecticut, 1825; Paul Verlaine, poet, Paris, 1895; Robert Stephenson Baden-Powell, 1st Baron Baden-Powell, general and founder of the Boy Scouts, Nyeri, Kenya, 1941; Richard Tauber, tenor, Australia, 1948; Kurt Schwitters, painter, Little Langdale, Cumbria, 1948; Chou En-lai, Premier of the People's Republic of China 1949-76, Peking, 1976.

David Lloyd George became the first prime minister to occupy Chequers, 1921.

Tomorrow

BIRTHS: John Jervis, Earl of St Vincent, admiral of the fleet, Stone, Staffordshire, 1735; Gilbert Abbott à Becket, comic writer, London, 1811; Charles Kortright, cricketer, Brentwood, Essex, 1871; Chaim Bialik, poet, Rady, Ukraine, 1873; John Watson, psychologist, Greenville, South Carolina, 1878; Lascelles Abercrombie, poet and critic, Ashton-upon-Mersey, 1881; Karel Capek, writer and dramatist, Male Svatonovice, Czechoslovakia, 1890; Dame Gracie Fields, singer, Rochdale, Lancashire, 1898; Simone de Beauvoir, novelist and critic, Paris, 1908.

DEATHS: Caroline Herschel, astronomer, Hanover, 1848; *Napoleon III, French Emperor* 1852-70, Chislehurst, Kent, 1873; Katherine Mansfield, writer, Fontainbleau, France, 1923; Karl Mannheim, sociologist, London, 1947; Pier Luigi Nervi, engineer and architect, Rome, 1979.

Income tax was introduced by William Pitt the Younger, 1799.

Anthony Eden resigned as Prime Minister, 1957.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H.B. Atkinson and Miss L.D. Aylwin
The engagement is announced between Ben, son of Mr and Mrs William Atkinson, of Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, and Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Aylwin, of Patcham, Sussex.

Mr T.J. Baynham and Miss A.L. Smith
The engagement is announced between Timothy James, son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Baynham, of Heighington, Lincoln, and Angela Louise, daughter of Dr and Mrs Barry Smith, of Mitton, Lancashire.

Mr D.S. Bell and Dr S.D. Hill
The engagement is announced between Scott, elder son of Mr and Mrs A.S. Bell, of Edinburgh, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Hill, of Leeds, Yorkshire.

Mr G.R. Boughton and Miss J.M. Kraushar
The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Dr and Mrs Brian Boughton, of Thurlestone, Devon, and Joanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Kraushar, of London, N2.

Mr P.C. Butt and Mrs V.A.M. Powell
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs A.G.M. Butt, of Delabole, Cornwall, and Valerie, widow of Group Captain D.M. Powell, RAF.

Mr D.J. Brett and Miss E.C. Harris
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Jack Brett, of Gillingham, Kent, and Elizabeth, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Harris, of Saxlingham, by Holt, Norfolk.

Mr M.D.S. Farnham and Miss S.H. Everitt
The engagement is announced between Matthew Douglas Scott, youngest son of Mr and Mrs George Farnham, of Kings Grange, Castle Douglas, and Suzanne Heather, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Everitt, of Solihull, Warwickshire.

Mr R.D. Fish and Miss E.K. Trimingham
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs M.D.H. Fish, of Takapuna, New Zealand, and Emma, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P.F.D. Trimingham, of Thames Ditton, Surrey.

Mr M.W.R. Hunt and Miss B.J. Murray Brown
The engagement is announced between Miles, son of Mr Rupert Hunt, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, and of Mrs Jane Urquhart, of Daventry, Northamptonshire, and Belinda Jane, daughter of Colonel and Mrs David Murray Brown, of Crowborough, East Sussex.

Mr M.D. Halewood and Miss K.J. Wood
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Stanley Halewood, of Burton, South Wirral, and Kathryn, daughter of Mr Brian Wood, and Mrs Barbara Wood, of Lymm, Cheshire.

Mr N.R.C. Jenni and Miss E.S. Lovick
The engagement is announced between Nicolas, son of Mrs Henry Bothway, of Fundenhall, Norfolk, and of the late Dr iur René Jenni, of Bienne, Switzerland, and Sara, daughter of Mrs David Adams, of Barnes, London, and Mr Trevor Lovick, of King's Walden, Hertfordshire.

The Hon J.H. Long and Miss A.R. Taunton
The engagement is announced between John, youngest son of the late 3rd Viscount and Viscountess Long, of Wraxall, and Anne, daughter of the late Captain and Mrs H.L. Taunton, of St Lawrence, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Mr T. Makower and Miss S.C. Baker Wilbraham
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Makower, of Barnes, London, and Sibella, daughter of Sir Richard and Lady Baker Wilbraham, of Rode Hall, Cheshire.

Mr P.A. Frost and Miss C.P. Booker
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of the Rev A.J. and the Rev M.E.E. Frost, of Ealing, and Claire, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs M.L. Booker, of Clifton, Bristol.

Mr A.M. McLean and Miss S.H.N. Mouatt
The engagement is announced between Andrew Mark, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth McLean, of Bath, and Susannah Helen Nicole, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Mouatt, of London.

Mr E.D. Prager and Miss J.A. Byrne
The engagement is announced between Edward, younger son of Mr and Mrs P. Prager, of Haslingfield, Cambridge, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs M.N. Byrne, of Bedhampton, Hampshire.

Mr W.A.M.L.L. Scott-Masson and Miss J.M. Ashley
The engagement is announced between William, son of Captain and Mrs D.J. Scott-Masson, of Devil's Point, Devon, and Joanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs D.G. Ashley, of Bourton, Dorset.

Captain A.D Shaw, RM, and Miss C. Lang
The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs David Shaw, of Borth, Dyfed, and Cheralie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Jim Lang, of Plainmoor, Torquay.

Mr R.H. Mingay and Miss B.A. Macgregor
The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mr and Mrs Ray Mingay, of Sundridge Park, Kent, and Barbara, daughter of Mr and Mrs Duncan Macgregor, of Home Farm, Hothorpe, Leicestershire.

Mr M. Page and Miss H.J. Matthews
The engagement is announced between Michael, second son of Mrs Barbara Petty, of Southport, Queensland, Australia, and Honor Jane, younger daughter of Major and Mrs Barry Matthews, of Hursley, Hampshire.

Mr M.McG. Stewart and Miss A.M. Mydske
Mr and Mrs Jackie Stewart, Switzerland, have much pleasure in announcing the engagement, on December 26, 1993, of their younger son, Mark, to Anne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Bjorn Mydske, Echandens, Switzerland.

Mr F.P. Trepess and Miss I. Gosztonyi
The engagement is announced between Frank Pickard, younger son of the late Major H.G.F. Trepess and of Mrs P.A. Hollond, now of Andorra, and Ilona, daughter of Mr L. Gosztonyi and the late Mrs I. Gosztonyi, of Nagykanizsa, Hungary.

Mr R.C.H. Taylor and Miss E.M. Hanson
The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs Brian Taylor, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, and Elspeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Hanson, of Horsforth, Leeds.

Mr M.J. Treece and Miss M. Tezuka
The engagement is announced between Teddy, elder son of the late Edward Treece and of Mrs Joan Treece, of Exmouth, Devon, and Miki, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Seitaro Tezuka, of Tokyo, Japan.

Major P.D.M. Watson and Miss J.M.A. Roberts
The engagement is announced between Peter Donald Mackenzie, Queen's Own Highlanders, younger son of Mrs B.M.K. Watson and the late Mr J.D.M. Watson, of Edinburgh, and Juliet Mary Auldjo, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Roberts, also of Edinburgh.

Mr A.N. Wright and Miss P.J. Ranson
The engagement is announced between Andrew Nichols, elder son of Mr and Mrs Gordon S. Wright, of Formby, Merseyside, and Penelope Jane, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Brian H.A. Ranson, of Fo Tan, Hong Kong.

University news

Kent
Professor Robin Sibson, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Statistics at Bath University, has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kent. Professor Sibson, 49, will take over on September 1 from David Ingram who will be retiring.

Reception

HM Government
Mr Allan Stewart, Minister for Industry and Local Government at the Scottish Office was host last night at a reception held in Edinburgh Castle for representatives of the Japanese Business Community in Scotland.

Dinner

Suffolk Lieutenancy
Lord Belstead, Lord Lieutenant, presided at a dinner at Seckford Hall, near Woodbridge, on January 5, to mark the retirement of Sir Joshua Rowley, Bt, as Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk.

Appointments

Tim Rollinson to be Secretary to the Forestry Commissioners from January 17 when Peter Clarke retires.

Neil Patrick Heley to be a Provincial Stipendiary Magistrate for the Norfolk Commission Area, based on Norwich Magistrates' Court, from January 18.

Latest wills

The Rt Hon Lloyd Tyrell-Kenyon, 5th **Lord Kenyon**, of Gredington, Whitchurch, Salop, Chairman of the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery, 1966-88, left estate valued at £2,858,639 net.

He left certain paintings to the National Portrait Gallery, £2,000 to St Chad's Parish Church, Hanmer, and £500 to the Clwyd Fine Arts Trust.

Other estates include (net before tax):

Mr John Bernard Meldrum, of West Moors, Dorset £659,086

Church services tomorrow

First Sunday after Epiphany

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Walton), Videntes stellam (Poulenc), Rev PGC Brett; 3.15 E, Weelkes for five voices, Tribus miraculis (Palestrina); 6.30 Sermon & Compline, The Archdeacon.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Prelude in G, Creed Sung in B flat and F, Postlude in D minor (Stanford), Canon Rex Chapman; 3 E, Wood in E flat.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Parish C, Bishop of Chelmsford; 11.15 M, Walford Davies in G, Britten in E flat, Canon Paul Brett; 6 Choral E, Collegium Regale (Howells), The Vice Provost.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Lit; 8 HC; 9.45 MP; 10.30 Choral Euch, Rutter in D, Darke in F, Videntes Stellam (Poulenc), Rt Rev Lord Bishop of Chester; 3.30 Choral E, Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern (Bach); 6.30 E, Canon Michael Rees.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, The Archdeacon; 11 Sung Euch, Harris in F, Bethlehem Down (Warlock), Rev John Gilling; 3.30 E; 6 Epiphany Proc.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Darke in A minor, Rev Nigel Guthrie; 3 German Lutherans; 5.30 E, Walmsley in D minor.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 11.15 HC, Canon Pedley; 3.30 E.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Lit; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Darke in F, The Chancellor; 11.15 M, Rev George Goalby; 3.45 E, Stanford in C.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Rev Michael Sanders; 3.30 E, Howells in G.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & Lit; 8 Euch, The Dean; 9 Parish Euch; 11 S Euch, Wood in F, The Canon; 12.15 H Euch; 3.30 Choral E; 6.30 Parish E, The Dean.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Little Organ Mass in B flat (Haydn), Rev P de N Lucas; 11.30 M, Stanford in B flat; 3 E, Collegium Regale (Howells), Videntes stellam (Poulenc), The Dean.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Collegium Regale (Howells), Rev Colin Semper; 11.15 Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), God by in my head (Rutter), Ave verum (Byrd), Rev Jonathan Goodall; 3 E, Dyson in D, Rev Roger Holloway; 5.45 Organ Recital, Mark Wardell; 6.30 *ES*, Rev Paul Ferguson.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30, 7 M; 10.00 MP; 10.30 Solemn M, Missa sine nomine (Grandi); 3.30 V&B, Magnificat octavi toni (Suriano), La Verbe (Messiaen); 4.30 Organ Recital, Iain Simcock.

YORK MINSTER: Regale (Howells), Three Kings (Cornelius); 4 E, Wood in D, Canon Ralph Mayland.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 11 Choral M, Dyson in D, Sumsion in G, Rev Fr Paul Kinsey.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Westminster Bridge Rd, SE1: 8, 6 LM; 10 Family M; 11.30 Solemn M; Rev Anthony Barratt.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8, 10, 11.30, HC & MS, The Minister.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 10.30 M; 11.30 HC, Palestrina; 3.15 E, Blair in B minor, Rev John Haliburton.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, Dundee: 8 HC; 9.40 SC; 11 Choral E, Jackson in G, Rev G Greig; 6.30 Choral E, Stanford in C, Prof P Stoward.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Mass in E minor (Bruckner), Rev CA Jones; 6 E&B, Rev P McGeary.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 C; 11.30 Rev Stephen Wookey; 6.30 C, Rev Christopher Hobbs.

AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 9.45 Sunday School; 11 Worship, Rev James Schmidt.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Worship, Missa Petre ego pro te rogavi (Lobo), Laudate Dominum (Pitoni), Ave Maria (Verdonck).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC; 10 Children's Service; 11 M, Mr J Watherston, Cantate Domino (Pitoni); 6 E, Mr D Royce.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Russell St, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Services, Rev Stanley Hood.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Rd, SW7: 9 HC, Rev Nicholas Gumbel; 11 Informal Service, Mr Jeremy Jennings; 6.30 Informal Service, Rev Sandy Millar.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.30, 4.30, 7 M; 11 Service, Missa O magnum mysterium (Victoria), Venite ad aquas Domini (Monteverdi); 3.30 V&B, Sitivit anima mea (Palestrina).

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30 Service, Rev Dr R John Tudor.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev Tom Bruch; 7 Lutheran Choral V, Wie schon leuchtet (Buxtehude), Rev Ronald T Englund.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Hunt in C; 6.30 E, Hunt in C, Preb Michael Shrewsbury.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Stanford in B flat; 6.30 Choral E, Watson in E, Canon John Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 9, 12.15 HC; 11 MP, Stanford in C, Rev John Coyne.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev John H McIndoe; 6.30 Rev W Alexander Cairns.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 Sung M, Jubilate Deo in chordis (Schutz), Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin (Bach), Rector Fr Kit Cunningham.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Williams), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), En Natus est Immanuel (Praetorius), Rev Graham Buckle; 6 Choral E, Short Service (Gibbons), Make we joy now (Walton), Rev Bill Wilson.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP & HC, Collegium Regale (Darke), O magnum mysterium (Poulenc), Rev Sheila Watson; 6.30 Choral E, Rev Derek Watson.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C; 11 S Euch, Mozart in Bflat, Rev Revak Shaw.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 Choral M, Rev Jeremy Caddick; 12.15 HC.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, Rev John Pridmore; 11.30 Visitors to London S, Vicar; 2.45 Chinese S, Rev Gilbert Lee; 5 Choral E; 6.30 ES, Rev John Pridmore.

ST MARY'S, Bourne St, SW1: 9, 9.45 LM; 11 HM, Fr Bill Scott; 6 Solemn E & Solemn B; 7 LM.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Rev James Roose Evans; 6 E.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Schubert in C, The Rector.

ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 8 HC; 11 Choral M, Rev D Burton Evans.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 Solemn Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), Cantate Domine (Byrd), Rev Neil Dawson.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Hereford Mass (Lloyd), Reges Tharsis (Sheppard), Rev Fr Desmond Tillyer.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 Solemn M, Missa Quinti Toni (Lassus), Tribus miraculis (Marenzio), Surge illuminare (Byrd), Rev Canon Christopher Colven; 6 Carol S.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9 HC, Canon JGMW Murphy; 11 Epiphany Carol S.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Let the people praise Thee (Mathias), Canon CJ Hill.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Farrant in F minor; 3.30, E, Eastern monarchs (Sumsion), Omnes de Saba (Handl).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 11 S Euch, Prelude in D major (Bach).

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Ireland in F, Rev Paul Johnstone; 12.30 HC.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Smart in F, The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Omnes de Saba venient (Handl), Band of the Lifeguards, The Chaplain; 12 HC.

Church news

Appointments

The Rt Rev Godfrey Ashby, Assistant Bishop of Leicester and Priest-in-charge, Newtown Linford: to be *also* an Honorary Canon at Leicester Cathedral (Leicester).

The Rev Canon Derek Brown, Rector, Holy Cross, Boultham, Lincoln: to be Rector, Epworth and Wroot (Lincoln).

The Rev Nina Brown, formerly Assistant Chaplain at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook: to be Deanery Deacon in the Samford Deanery (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev John Craig, Precentor of Leicester Cathedral: to be *also* an Honorary Canon of Leicester Cathedral (Leicester).

The Rev Jenny Dumat, Assistant Chaplain, Pilgrim Hospital, Boston: to be Minister-in-charge, Friskney (Lincoln).

The Rev Robert Featherstone, Vicar, Belvedere St Augustine (Rochester): to be Vicar, Withyam St John (Chichester).

The Ven Frederick Hazell, recently retired as Archdeacon of Croydon: to be Bishop's Adviser in Pastoral Care and Counselling for Clergy and Families (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Francis Hewitt, Vicar, Lastingham w. Appleton-le-Moors, Rosedale and Cropton and Rural Dean of Helmsley: to be Vicar, Pickering (York).

The Rev Eric Horner, Assistant Curate, Holy Cross, Boultham, Lincoln: to be Priest-in-charge, Kirton in Holland w. Frampton and Kirton Skeldyke (Lincoln).

The Rev Patricia Lawless: to be Curate (NSM), Christ Church, Frome (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Kevin Mepham, Curate, Hollington St Leonard: to be Vicar, Horam (Chichester).

The Rev David Pearson-Miles, Priest-in-charge, Barcombe: to be Rector, Barcombe (Chichester).

The Rev Robert Pitt, Team Vicar, Wellington and District Team Ministry: to be Vicar, Burnham-on-Sea (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Lambert Poodhun, Chaplain, Colwood, Larchwood, Hayward Heath Princess Royal St Francis and Hurstwood Park Hospitals: to be *also* a Canon of Chichester Cathedral and Prebend of Wisborough (Chichester).

The Rev Canon Jean Semeonoff, Bishop's Adviser for Women's Ministry (Leicester): to be Assistant Curate (NSM), St Anne, Leicester (Leicester).

The Rev Richard Tebbs, Team Vicar, Bridport Team Ministry (Salisbury): to be Rector, Yelverton, Meavy, Sheepstor and Walkhampton (Exeter).

The Rev Jonathan Watson, Curate, St John, Locks Heath (Portsmouth): to be Vicar, St Paul, Northumberland Heath (Rochester).

The Rev Simon Weedon, Assistant Curate, Great Chesham Team Ministry: to be Assistant Curate, Haversham w. Little Linford, Tyringham w. Filgrave and Evangelism Enabler in Milton Keynes (Oxford).

The Rev Peter Wilson, Assistant Curate, Newton Aycliffe (Durham): to be Assistant Curate, St Paul, Tottenham (London).

The Rev Dr Frederick Young, Vicar, Morton w. Hacconby (Lincoln): to be Director of the College of Preachers.

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Canon Norman Baldock, incumbent, Margate St John (Canterbury): to retire as from June 1994.

The Rev John Ives, Team Vicar, Great Ilford, St Clement (Chelmsford): to resign as from February 22.

The Rev Michael McCreadie, Vicar, St John the Evangelist, Carlinghow, Batley (Wakefield): to resign as from February 27.

The Rev Peter Wood, Vicar, Ricall (York): to take early retirement at, or shortly after, Easter 1994.

The Rev James Woodhouse, Vicar, East Coatham (York): to retire as from April 9.

Other appointments

Mr Colin Udall, Diocesan Youth and Community worker (Coventry): to be Diocesan Adviser for Social Responsibility (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000
FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

Get wisdom, get understanding: do not forget or turn a deaf ear to what I say. Proverbs 4:5 (REB)

BIRTHS

ASTON - On 6th January, to Sue (née Potter) and David, a son, James Nevile.

BETHELL - On January 5th, to Sally and James, a son, Edward David John.

COLEMAN - On 31st December 1993, to Janet and Timothy, a son, William Henry Richard.

COLLINS - On January 3rd, to Miranda and Simon, a daughter, Frances Joanna, a sister for Timothy and Isabel.

CUBITT - On 6th January at 11.43 am, to Dicky (née Young) and David, a son, Thomas Piers.

FRANKLIN - On January 4th 1994 in Plymouth to Giselle (née Smith) and Julian, a beautiful son, Oliver Robert.

GOULDING - On 29th December at The Portland Hospital, to Suzy (née Bowen) and James, a son, William George Corfield, a brother for Henry.

GRAHAM - On 5th January, to Antonia (née Enthoven) and Jonathan, a daughter, Sacha Alicia Cecilia, a sister for Luke.

GRANT - A New Year's Day daughter, Sophie Valentina, to Tony and Carole Walker.

HORIE - On December 31st at The Portland Hospital, to Kawana and Shoji, their first daughter, Wakana.

JUDD - On January 2nd, to Philippa (née Wilmoth) and Nicholas, a son, George William, a brother for Oliver.

KEBBELL - On January 2nd 1994, to Janie (née Roper) and Nick, a son, Thomas and a daughter, Harriet, brother and sister to Hamish.

KORN - On January 5th at the Wellington Hospital, to Dale and Rachel, a beautiful daughter, Lauren Alexis, a sister for Ryan.

PULFORD - On 25th December 1993, to Sarah (née Willan) and Piet, a son, William Francis, a brother for Catherine and Richard.

RASHID - On December 9th at The Portland Hospital, to Tasneem and Abdul, a beautiful son, Tabish.

RESTA - On December 30th at The Portland Hospital, to Joanne (née Wise) and Carlo, a daughter, Lily, a sister for Alessandro.

SARGANT - On January 5th in Perth, W. Australia, to Adele and Chris, a son.

SARKANY - On 24th December 1993, to Joanne and Andrew, a son, Thomas Edward Harry.

SEADON - On 26th December 1993, in Khartoum, Sudan, to Nicola (née Dow) and Colin, a daughter, Alison Joy, a sister to David and Hilary.

SELWYN SHARPE - On 6th January, to Fleur and Richard, a son, George James Augustus, a brother for Thomas.

STEVENS - On January 3rd, to Karen and Michael, a daughter, Annabel Poppy Katharine, a sister for Melissa.

WOZENCROFT - On December 28th 1993, to Bonnie (née Boone) and Stephen, a beautiful daughter, Isabel Grace.

DEATHS

ARTHY - Mary English, on Friday 7th January peacefully, aged 101. Widow of Eric, beloved mother of Erica, Bruce and Elizabeth, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at St Wulfrans Church, Ovingdean, on Wednesday January 12th at 3.15 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for *Ovingdean School for Partially Hearing Children* c/o E. Carter & Son, Rottingdean, tel: (0273) 303467.

BOMPAS - At the West Cumberland Hospital on Wednesday January 5th 1994, Marion, loved and loving widow of the late Dick Bompas of Low Moresby, Whitehaven, Cumbria. Funeral service and cremation to be held at Distington Hall Crematorium on Thursday January 13th at 11 am. No flowers by request. Donations if desired to the NSPCC c/o W. Eaves Funeral Director, 176 High Road, Kells, Whitehaven, Cumbria.

BRANSCOMBE - Winifred Mary. On January 3rd, peacefully in hospital, in her 93rd year, formerly of The Hill House, 29 Sydenham Hill, SE26. Greatly loved and loving wife of the late John Reginald, mother of Peter and Ronald and grandmother of Julian, Sophie and Neil. Funeral Service at West Norwood Crematorium at 12 noon on Monday January 10th. No flowers by request, but if desired donations to RNIB Talking Books Service or Abbeyfield S.E.L.E.C. Society c/o Messrs Udens, 375 Lordship Lane, SE22, (tel: 081-693 1526).

FLEMING - Sister Jean (Frances Jean) on 6th January at St Joseph's, The Bar Convent, York. Peacefully after a long illness. Grateful thanks from her family to all who have lovingly cared for her.

FORRESTER - On Thursday 6th January at Ardnacross, John Alexander Leckie aged 81. Dearly loved husband of Anne and loving father of Robin, Rory, Lilah and Peter, eleven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Funeral at St Columbus Church, Gruline, at 1.30 pm on Tuesday 11th January. Donations to British Red Cross c/o Miss Henderson, West Highland Cottage, Aros, Isle of Mull.

FRYER - On January 6th 1994, peacefully in hospital, Evangeline, wife of the late Philip, much loved mother of Joan, Diana and Richard, much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Wymondham Abbey, Norfolk, on Friday January 14th at 2.30 pm. No flowers but donations at her request to the Multiple Sclerosis Society may be sent c/o Messrs R.J. Bartram & Son (Charity a/c) Funeral Directors, Wymondham, Norfolk. NR18 0JS. please.

GRIFFITHS - Evelyn B. On 6th January, peacefully in her 95th year, in Eastbourne. Funeral Service at St Andrew's United Reform Church, 12 noon 14th January.

GWYNNE-EVANS - On 29th December, peacefully in Spain, Sir Francis Loring Bt. Beloved husband of Gloria and much loved father and grandfather. The funeral took place quietly in Marbella on 3rd January.

MACKENZIE - On 29th December 1993 peacefully in hospital, Ian Alister Mackenzie aged 79 years, dearly loved husband of Laddie. Funeral Service at St Michael and All Angels Church, Pirbright, at 10 am followed by private interment at Brookwood Cemetery on Friday 14th January 1994. Flowers to T.H. Sanders, 447 Upper Richmond Road West, London SW14.

MELLER - Mary Eleanor, peacefully at Ashley Park Nursing Home, West Clandon, on 6th January 1994, aged 82. Widow of Grahame Temple Meller, loving mother of James, Andrew and Simon and devoted grandmother. Service at St Thomas of Canterbury, East Clandon, at 11 am on Friday 14th January followed by family cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to John Charnley Trust Edward VII Quay, Navigation Way, Ashton-on-Ribble, Preston PR2 2YF.

PENMAN - On 5th January, after a long illness, Dr. John Penman, beloved husband of Elisabeth and dear father of Anthea, Charles and Serena. Funeral at Salisbury Crematorium on Monday 17th January at 3 pm. Family flowers only. If desired donations may be sent to Population Concern, 231 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9AE.

POWELL - Rhys (Taffy) January 6th 1994, peacefully at his home, Graig Bragdy, Abram's Lane, Denbigh, aged 67 years. Much loved by his wife Jean, his sons Simon, Nick, Siôn, Ianto and their families. Funeral on Wednesday January 12th, Service at St Marcella's Church, Denbigh, at 2 pm followed by committal at Colwyn Bay Crematorium at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired, gratefully accepted towards Denbigh Infirmary Macmillan Ward per R.W. Roberts & Son, Llys Aled, Denbigh, tel: (0745) 812936.

STEWART - Ronald Lindsay ("Ronnie"/"Pat") aged 90 of Fernhurst, West Sussex; formerly of King's College, Taunton, Union of Canton, R.A.A.F., British Oak (G.R.E.); loving and beloved husband of Lorna, adored father of Adrienne, Barbara and Jeremy and much loved grandfather; peacefully on 6th January after a short illness. Cremation at 10.30 am on Friday 14th January at Guildford Crematorium, followed by a Thanksgiving Service at 12 noon at St Margaret's, Fernhurst. Family flowers only, please: donations to Friends of King Edward VII Hospital (Midhurst) c/o L.F. Linton & Son, Funeral Directors, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9DG (tel: 0730-813264).

WINCH - Peacefully on January 4th 1994, Simon Anthony Bissell, aged 57 years. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Swanage, on Tuesday January 11th at 11.15 am followed by cremation at Poole. Family flowers only please but donations in his memory may be sent to John Taylor D.H.C.T. Cancer Equipment Fund may be sent to James Smith F/D, 60A King's Road, Swanage tel: (0929) 422445.

WOODS - Dr. Brian, suddenly on 4th January. Cremation at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip, 12 noon, Thursday 13th January. Friends welcome.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

EDMEADES - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Rosalind Mary Winifred Edmeades, who died on November 25th 1993, will be held at St George's Church, Wrotham, Kent, on Friday January 21st 1994 at 2 pm. Donations if desired to Royal British Legion, Preston Hall, Royal British Legion Village, Aylesford, Kent ME20 7NJ.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

SIMMONS - In proud and ever-living memory of my beloved husband Lewis Simmons (Sim) January 8th 1984. Norma.

SMITH - Terry, Flt Lt retd. Passed away on January 9th 1992, sadly missed by his wife Enid and family. Until we meet again Terry, love you always. E.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EYES met, Friday 17th Dec., M6 (Corley Services). You "captive" in black Rover 800. Please Reply to Box No 5404.

I would like to wish Will & Eliza a magical future, and by the way Will thanks for choosing the right of clubs, regards Howard.

WALKER James Albert Charles and Leslie Walker resided at No 1 Bride Street, Islington, 1930-31. Do you know these people? Tel 081 334 4034.

BIRTHDAYS

WILLIAMS - Bessie Eleanor. With fondest love on this your 90th birthday from us all. Your children - Derek, Jean, Margaret and Irene, our partners Hazel, Claude, Donald and John. Your grandchildren - Penelope, Eleanor, Louise, James, Angela, Judith and Emily; Mark, Kingsley and Andrew; Philip, Steven and Robert; Julie and Michael, their partners Paul, Alan, Danny, Tanya, Michael, Ian, Annette, Andrea, Sue, Rosie and Trach. And your great grandchildren - Nicholas, Amy and Charlotte; Matthew, Samuel and Rebekah; Simone; Sophie; Shane, Elisha and Rhiannon; Nathan; Vance, Nicholas and Kane; Bryony and Jared; Michael, Sarah and Kathryn.

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LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
P S MOSSE
& PARTNERS LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at The Bonnington Hotel, 92 Southampton Row, London WC1 on 17 January 1994 at 11.00 am for the purposes, if thought fit, of nominating Liquidators and of appointing a Liquidation Committee. Any proxy to be used at the meeting must be lodged at Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU not later than 12 noon on the business day before the meeting. A statement of claim must also be lodged.
NOTICE is also given that, for the purpose of voting, secured creditors must (unless they surrender their security) lodge a statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given, and the value at which they estimate it.
G H Hughes and M E Mills are the liquidators appointed by the members of the company on 4 January 1994 and will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the affairs of the company as they may reasonably require.
Dated 6 January 1994
J Shepherd, Director.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Borrego Taverns Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above named Company will be held at Hilton National Warwick, A46, Stratford Road, Warwick, CV34 6RE at 11.00 a.m. on 10th January 1994 for the purposes provided for in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection, free of charge, from Barry P Knights, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner, of Knights & Company, Albany House, 5 New Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2PH, during the two working days prior to the meeting.
DATED 23 December 1993
By Order of the Board
Alexander Hugh Gaffart,
Director.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

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TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

CLEARY (otherwise known as MAINWARING), OLIVE CONSTANCE of 49 Oakdale Road, London SW16 died on 1st March 1990: Particulars to The Public Trustee, The Public Trust Office, Stewart House, 24 Kingsway, London WC2B 6JX (Ref: A18/DGT/CM11) before 9th March 1994.

GARRATT RALPH IVOR Martins Cottage, Bowden Stoke, Fleming, Devon Died 22nd September 1993: Particulars to Middleton and Upsall, 2 North Parade, Frome, Somerset BA11 1AT before 9th March 1994

JACINTO COSTAS COMESANA late of 38 Bishops Close, Junction Road, London N19 (Head Waiter) Died 19th August 1993; Particulars to Black, Graf & Co, 14/15 College Crescent, London NW3 5LL. Name of Administrator: Mrs Cotilde Robinson before 9th March 1994.

KRAMINER, MARTIN of First Floor Flat, 8 Phillimore Gardens, London W8 died on 12th October 1992: Particulars to Tarrant Sutton Solicitors of Scottish Life House, 32/33 Victoria Road, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 4JT before 9th March 1994.

Notice Pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustee Act 1925
Any person having any claim against or any interest in the estate of SPIRO AZZOPARDI deceased late of 72a Heathwood Road Heath Cardiff who died on the 15th day of May 1993 is required to send particulars thereof to Dosi Wigley 31/33 Newport Road Cardiff Solicitors for the executrix of the said deceased on or before 9th March 1994 after which date the estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
DOSI WIGLEY Solicitors 31/33 Newport Road Cardiff CF2 1TQ.

re: EDITH ANN HABGOOD Deceased
Notice pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925.
Any person having any claim against or an interest in the estate of EDITH ANN HABGOOD late of Brightwell House, Reading Road East Hendred Wantage Oxon who died on the 16th day of July 1993 is required to send particulars thereof to the undersigned Ronald William Green Executor of the said deceased on or before the 11th day of March 1994 after which date the estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which he shall then have had notice.
Dated this 29th day of December 1993.
R.W. Green, Accountant
2 Gallows Pound Lane, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 2RJ

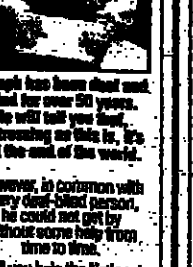
TICKNER, MARTIN JOHN of 110 Mountjoy House, Barbican, London EC2 died on 22nd November 1992: Particulars to Charles Russell Solicitors of Hale Court, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3UL before 9th March 1994.

WATSON, FREDERICK JAMES of 1 Gideon Road, Lavender Hill, London SW11 5UA died on 3rd September 1993: Particulars to H.C.L. Hanne & Co Solicitors of 281 Lavender Hill, London SW11 5TH before 9th March 1994.

YATES, JESS FREDERICK JOSEPH late of Plas-yn-Roe Bowen Conwy Wales Retired Television Producer Died 9th April 1993. Particulars to Harbottle & Lewis of 14 Hanover Square, London W1R 0BE. Name of Executor Mrs Paula Geldof before 7th March 1994.

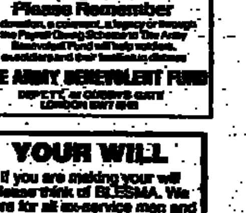
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OBITUARIES

WILLIAM CHAPPELL

William Chappell, dancer, designer and theatre director, died in Rye, East Sussex, on January 1 aged 85. He was born in Wolverhampton on September 27, 1908.

THE death of Billy Chappell snaps one of the last links with the distant infancy of English ballet, a nursery of talent centred around the Notting Hill studio where Marie Rambert taught a band of young hopefuls the skills she had learnt from her years with Diaghilev. Chappell became one of her first students in 1926, and even danced for Diaghilev when he visited her studio during his last London season. Already Chappell was designing costumes for the occasional public performances of the Marie Rambert Dancers, as they had come to be called, and it was to be as a designer that he would make his special contribution to English ballet.

As a child he moved from Wolverhampton to London, where his mother eventually rented a flat in Redcliffe Gardens. This lay within easy reach of Notting Hill and the Chelsea School of Art where he studied design. Here he also met the painter Edward Burra, who became a lifelong friend and introduced him, at an early age, to the racy delights of Montparnasse.

In 1928 Chappell returned to Paris to join Frederick Ashton as one of the male dancers in the company assembled by Ida Rubinstein to display her modest talent as a performer. The continental tour that followed was bizarre, with public performances so widely separated that the dancers referred to themselves as "La Compagnie des répétitions". Despite its accompanying absurdities the experience was of priceless value to a young dancer: Bronislava Nijinska (Nijinsky's sister) was one of the choreographers and the tour took Chappell to all the major opera houses in Europe.

Like so many male dancers of his generation Chappell began training too late to become a great dancer, though good looks and a strong build meant that he was always a fine presence on the stage. (Many years later, in 1951, he would appear in the minor role of Second Savage in the play *The Little Hut*, a desert island fantasy in which he was required to do no more than emerge from the glossy, Oliver Messel foliage and thrill Joan Tetzel with his steely physique.) His most important and favourite role was the Faun in *L'Après-Midi* but he created many roles in the early Ashton ballets (*Capriol Suite*, *Façade*) as well as in *Job* and *Checkmate*. He partnered Fonteyn in her first major role, Creole Boy to her Creole Girl in the Vic-Wells revival of Ashton's *Rio Grande*. This was a ballet that *The Times* critic deemed offensively immoral, objecting both to the tight slit skirts Burra designed for the girls and to the loucheness of the choreography.



William Chappell partnered by Margot Fonteyn, right, with Walter Cox and Beatrice Appleyard in the Vic-Wells 1935 revival of Rio Grande

What Chappell himself achieved on the tiny Rambert budgets was astonishing. For the Elizabethan costumes of *Capriol Suite* (1930) he bought beige linen at sixpence a yard from Barkers and decorated it with black tape. The total cost was £5. He designed for several other short Ashton ballets and then came *Les Rendezvous* (1933 and frequently revived) in which the famous grey dress he made for Markova has come to be considered one of the loveliest ever designed.

In his attractive book *Studies in Ballet*, illustrated with his own line drawings, and marred only by his reluctance to mention his own work, Chappell set out the essential qualities required of a designer. Near the top of his list comes the ability to suggest period without heaviness — "to produce a royal robe that appears to be of rich brocade . . . when, in reality, it is infinitely light". His own experience as a dancer ensured that his costumes were always supremely wearable even when they became, as in his later work, over-prettified and too high on sugar.

After war service in the Royal Artillery Chappell turned to direction, achieving his first success with *The Lyric Revue* (1951), which ran for a year at that theatre, and its successor *The Globe Revue*. Intimate revue's allusive wit appealed to him and he worked on several others in the next dozen years, including *An Evening with Beatrice Lillie*, until with Dora Bryan's *Six of One* (1963) this particular genre expired before the onrush of television. Ten years later *Cocky*, a tribute to C. B. Cochran, was not a success.

In 1954 he directed his first play, a prewar *pièce rose* by Anouilh, *Time Remembered*, with Paul Scofield, as the melancholy prince, Margaret Rutherford his fond aunt and Mary Ure. This wry look at the brevity of love and memory represented one extreme of Chappell's preferred modes, the other being the sleazy street-world of *Expresso Bongo* (1958), again with Scofield.

He directed over 30 shows before ill-health and, it must be said, gradual loss of touch brought this period of his career to an end. There remained writing. Already he had produced one of the earliest memoirs of Fonteyn, valuable for its insider's awareness of her genius and written at a time (1948) when she was still being subjected to mean comparisons with foreign dancers. After Burra's death in 1976 he edited a volume of reminiscences and a jaunty selection of his friend's letters. In recent years emphysema restricted his activities and he found the journey between his Battersea home and his cottage in Rye increasingly irksome. He was unmarried.

HIS HON NORMAN SELLERS

His Honour Norman Sellers, VRD, a Circuit Judge, 1974-90, died following a stroke on December 28 aged 74. He was born on August 29, 1919.



ENGLISH judges tend to focus their interests around the Inns of Court, West End clubs such as the Garrick and golf courses in the more salubrious suburbs. They frequently share a Home Counties background and ethos, whose group loyalties and social ties bind them together.

"Norrie" Sellers was entirely different. He hated London, loved Liverpool and resented the 1970s' Lancashire-Merseyside split. He came from a strong Northwestern lineage and for his last seven years was a deputy lieutenant of Lancashire.

His grandfather had run a firm of Liverpool coasters — potatoes from Jersey were a staple cargo. His father, Sir Frederic Sellers, a Lord Justice of Appeal, had been a top commercial QC, rated the best in his field by Lord Denning, a close friend. From the family's house on Liverpool's sea-line the young Sellers would watch Cunarders busily voyaging in and out of what was then a major, wealthy port.

Like his father, Sellers was a Liberal parliamentary candidate and a Congregationalist. His grandmother had been a Dissenting soap-box orator in Liverpool's streets. His career was to criss-cross the county as a Liverpool barrister, a Crosby candidate, a yachtsman out of Southport and a judge in Preston.

Norman William Malin Sellers was educated at Merchant Taylor's in Crosby and Silcoates School, Wakefield, going on to read law at Hertford College, Oxford. The war cut into his university career and he was allowed to take his degreee in less than the normal three years, with a credit given for naval service. He was gunnery officer on the battleship HMS *Nelson* in the Atlantic, being mentioned in disparches, commanded the frigate, HMS *Periwinkle* and saw action in Malta convoys.

For 20 years after the war, he was active in the RNVR — on a one-night-a-week basis, captaining HMS *Mersey*, a minesweeper doubling as a training ship at Liverpool — and rose to be a lieutenant-commander. In 1953 he was one of those who marched in the RNVR's contingent at the Coronation.

In 1947 he had been called to the Bar by Gray's Inn. On the Northern Circuit, he began in the Liverpool chambers of Selwyn Lloyd, once his father's pupil. He developed a far-ranging Common Law practice handling crime, often prosecuting for the DPP in murders and attempted murders but also doing civil work, especially personal injury cases frequently for the insurers. He also practised in Liverpool's Court of Passage, a unique mid-way tribunal between the County and High Courts. He never took Silk, but became Assistant Recorder of Blackpool in 1962, keeping this part-time post until the reforms of 1971.

In 1964 he came a gallant third for the Liberals in Crosby, a seat the party had not always fought but was eventually briefly to win with an SDP-Alliance candidate (Shirley Williams) at the famous 1981 by-election.

From 1972 until 1974 he was a Crown Court Recorder, a more onerous post than being Assistant Recorder of Blackpool but still only a part-time judicial job. He joined the Bench as a Circuit Judge in 1974 and, as a consequence, had to give up political life. His daughter, though, carried the family flag as a Liberal Democrat candidate in 1992; retirement enabled her father to canvass for her.

As a judge his first posting was to Snaresbrook in London for two years. He lobbied for, and won, a return to the North, taking up a post in Preston, where he bought a house on the outskirts, convenient for hill-walking. The work of his court was largely criminal but another aspect was children's cases, especially contested adoptions, in which he and his wife, a JP and ex-social worker, took a keen interest. An Indian woman once kissed his feet in the corridors of the court after a custody award in her favour. But formality was otherwise the rule in his court. A female counsel was once requested firmly to retilt her wig in order to distract attention from an over-magnetic hairstyle.

The sea and the mountains were his passions, without at all inhibiting a natural gregariousness. This was sometimes displayed in the staging of amateur theatricals at home, and he and his wife were also regular attenders at the Liverpool Playhouse.

He leaves his widow Grace, whom he married in 1946, and four daughters.

JIM BIRKETT

Robert James Birkett, Lakeland rock-climber, died in hospital at Kendal on December 30 aged 79. He was born in Little Langdale on April 22, 1914.

JIM BIRKETT was an outstanding rock-climber of the immediate prewar and postwar years in Lakeland with 45 new routes to his credit, mostly in the hardest grades of the day. Because he had a fine eye for a line almost all his climbs have become often repeated classics.

Birkett was a quarryman all his working life; immensely strong, a teetotal non-smoker who belonged to a new breed of working-class climbers which arose in the Lakes at that time.

His early climbs were done in his working clogs. He climbed on many crags but in particular he is associated with the ferocious East Buttress of Scafell, the Castle Rock of Triermain and White Ghyll, Langdale.

On Scafell his first big new route was May Day Climb (1938) where his use of pitons for protection caused raised eyebrows among the traditional climbing establishment. It was the first new climb on this difficult crag for five years.

In the following year his ascent of Overhanging Bastion, on the Castle Rock of Triermain, with C. R. Wilson and L. Muscroft, created a sensation in climbing circles for its bold line up an overhanging face previously not considered feasible. It is now one of the Lake District's most popular climbs.

Birkett later added several more routes to the accessible crag including Harlot's Face (1949), the first extreme grade climb in Lakeland.

In 1945 he climbed Hollin Groove in White Ghyll and, though it was not the first route on this Langdale crag, Birkett's subsequent climbs there — White Ghyll Wall (1946), Slip Knot (1947), Haste Not (1948), Perhaps Not (1948) and Do Not (1949) ensured its lasting popularity — not least because of the amusing sequence of names all based on a local feature called Swine Knott.

Although he attracted some controversial in his earlier days, James Birkett was a quiet man, averse to publicity. His influence on Lakeland rock-climbing cannot be over estimated. Less well-known is his work as an amateur naturalist whose study of the eggs of peregrine falcons helped to prove the harmful effects of DDT on these birds.

Jim Birkett was twice married and is survived by two sons.



Jim Birkett, right, climbing on Kern Knotts, Great Gable, in the Lake District

RAFAELLE, DUCHESS OF LEINSTER

Rafaelle, Duchess of Leinster, second wife of the seventh Duke of Leinster, died in London on December 28, reputedly aged 92. She was born in Brooklyn.

RAFAELLE, Duchess of Leinster was the second wife of Ireland's premier duke. She did not like to reveal her age, but was born in Brooklyn around the turn of the century, an only child. Her father's family, the Kennedys, were Irish immigrants from Derry and her mother's had made a small fortune in business. They divorced and Rafaelle was brought up in Stamford, Connecticut.

She visited London for the first time in 1924 and became a converted Anglophile. Well-dressed and striking as she looked, though in fact worth very little, she was taken up by Beverley Nichols, Cecil Beaton and the rest of London society and soon accepted, on a whim, a marriage proposal from Claire Van Neck.

Her husband, she discovered after the wedding, was desperately ill from tuberculosis. Their five years of marriage were lukewarm at best on her side, and while he stayed in the country, she held court at their flat in Cadogan Gardens. It was around this time, in the early 1930s, that Rafaelle discovered the concert pianist Moura Lympany. Rafaelle was herself an enthusiastic amateur pianist and the *Evening Standard* wrote a warm article about the concerts she gave in her flat. Moura's mother, having read it, introduced her to her 15-year-old daughter. The first time Rafaelle heard Moura play — a piece of Debussy — she was completely won over, and took it upon herself to introduce the girl to friends in the music world.

Rafaelle returned to New York in the early 1930s and while there met the seventh Duke of Leinster, a man who, as the third son of the fifth duke, had sold his life interest in his Irish estates for a pittance and a small annual allowance for life. Both his brothers, one of whom briefly became the sixth duke, predeceased him and, having succeeded to the dukedom in 1922, Leinster was left trying to live up to the title on limited means.

Now divorced from his first wife, he had come to New York with the express intention of marrying a rich American woman in order to buy back his inheritance. Having found Rafaelle, however, he threw caution to the winds, abandoned his plan and proposed to her on the top of the Empire State Building. They returned to England, Rafaelle obtained a divorce from Van Neck, and the two were married.

Creditors and moneylenders dogged their steps from the beginning and, as an undischarged bankrupt, the Duke's signature was useless for surety. So Rafaelle was forced personally to take on all the leases for their houses. She signed 17 in three years, the Duke's extravagance only being matched by his inability to put down roots. After leaving her to the mercy of their creditors three times, he finally absconded for good with Jo Wessel, an ex-Gaiety Girl, who became his third wife.



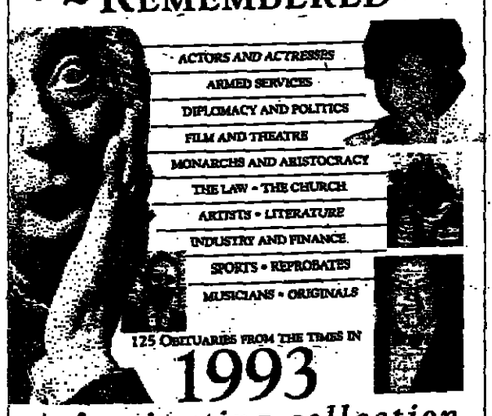
Rafaelle, Duchess of Leinster, chairman of the surgical division of Bundles for Britain

Rafaelle, however, refused to be forced into a quick divorce, and stayed on by herself in London, only returning to New York on the outbreak of war. British War Relief in America was then in full swing and when "Bundles for Britain" was started, Rafaelle, with her excellent English contacts, was made chairman of the surgical division, in charge of packing off operating tables, canteens, iron lungs, vaccines and oxygen tents. She was also given her own 15-minute radio news programme, twice a week, on the Hearst network.

She returned to Britain on VE-Day and the following year was divorced. For a time, after her good friend the Countess of Southesk died in 1945, it looked possible that she might marry the Earl of Southesk. But though she had other suitors — including at one point the Duke of Leinster who proposed again — she remained single. Her public appearances became less frequent over the years though she attended the Queen's Coronation in 1953, not as a duchess, but as the overseas chairman of the Returned British Prisoners of War Association. For a long time she lived in Grosvenor Square in the same building as three other duchesses, and spent the winters in New York, until her mother's death in 1969.

Afterwards she was saddled with heavy death duties. With a dwindling income, she spent the rest of her life in London, still seeing old friends such as Dame Barbara Cartland, and having lunch at Claridges occasionally, though this became an increasingly rare treat. In 1973 she published her memoirs, *So Brief A Dream*. The seventh Duke of Leinster died in 1976, and she had no children.

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THE FIRST RATIONING

The rationing of essential foodstuffs, which begins today, will bring the practice of war economy into every home. Bacon and ham, butter and sugar will henceforward be available to the retail purchaser in strictly limited supply. Presently butcher's meat will be rationed also. Necessity and strategy combine to require this demand of a nation dependent for so much of its food on suppliers from abroad. Rationing comes late rather than early. In the last War unrestricted submarine warfare began thirty months after the outbreak of hostilities. This war began with the enemy's submarines dispersed over the seas and lying in wait to sink unarmed merchantmen—those of neutrals as well as our own. Imports have been made more difficult not alone by submarines but also by the demands on our shipping and our exchange for the purchase and transport of indispensable means of waging the war. The people of Britain are not being required to forgo really necessary food. There is plenty of food in the country and waiting to be brought in, and there is enough of the rationed foods to meet our essential requirements as a liberally dieted people. Rationing may result in a more varied dietary in many homes, and a little ingenuity will adapt alternative foods to tables which, because of rationing, need not be short of ample supplies. An excellent purpose of the Ministry of Food, to which Mr. Morrison made reference in his broadcast on Saturday, is to give advice on methods of using alternative foods and foods which at a particular time are in good supply and cheap. As important as the economical use of imported foods is the prevention of waste ; and a weakness in the marketing of not a few home-grown commodities has been the periodical glut, due to the absence of arrangements for the orderly movement of unpredictable supplies and the diffusion of information calculated to produce a demand at the right moment. The Ministry of Food proposes to tell the public what they may expect. There is no question at all of the readiness of the people to undergo the inconveniences of the present rationing, which is accompanied by two assurances—that the rationed quantities are reliable and will certainly be in the shops and that distribution will be fair to all alike. To fulfil the second assurance price, as well as distribution, must be kept steadily in mind, because commodities could be put as far out of reach by high prices as by a barrier of sea.

ON THIS DAY

January 8 1940

The first rationing of food in wartime Britain hardly amounted to a tightening of the belt. That came later.

NEWS

Worse to follow £60m flood damage

■ Flooding in south and central England, which has caused an estimated £60 million damage, is expected to worsen this weekend as forecasters predict further rain and sleet.

Thousands of soaked householders have also been warned of higher insurance premiums. The rise will affect any house built close to a river. Norwich Union announced a ratings system that means people living in the same area, but on higher ground, would pay less ..... **Pages 1, 3**

Tories tell Yeo to keep his peace

■ Tim Yeo was told by senior Tories to keep quiet and to abandon a resignation statement in the Commons if he is wishes to salvage his political career. The message followed Mr Yeo's angry attack on Aldine Horrigan, a mayor in his constituency, for her role in his downfall ..... **Pages 2, 14, 15**

Kidnap father jailed

Peter Malkin, who abducted his son and took him to Egypt, was jailed for 18 months for contempt of court ..... **Page 1**

Nato accord

John Major has been invited to Washington, where he and President Clinton are expected to cement their agreement not to extend Nato membership to Eastern Europe ..... **Pages 1, 9**

Rebuff for Sinn Fein

Sir Patrick Mayhew rejected Sinn Fein's demand that the Government clarify the Anglo-Irish Declaration ..... **Pages 2, 6**

Abduction fear

Police fear a father may have taken his two young sons abroad after failing to return them to his former partner ..... **Page 3**

Crime call

John Major attacked "airy-fairy theories" for dealing with criminals and said people were sick of young offenders "being sent round the world" ..... **Page 7**

Counting the cost

The dealer who bid £7 million for an antique calculator and failed to pay has died, leaving Christie's with a legal dilemma ..... **Page 8**

Whitewater plea

Janet Reno, the US Attorney-General, wants an independent prosecutor to investigate President Clinton's involvement role in the Whitewater scandal ..... **Page 10**

Saudis seek cash

Saudi Arabia has asked for more time to pay for US arms purchases as falling oil prices cause cash-flow problems ..... **Page 11**

Bush fires encircle anxious Sydney

■ Sydney skies turned black as the worst bush fires in 50 years raged to within ten miles of the city centre. Main roads and railways out of the city were closed and 3,000 homes could be at risk unless high winds ease today. Casualties have been low so far, but several people were reported trapped last night in a blazing building south of the city ..... **Pages 1, 12**



Muscovites in 18th century army uniforms firing a cannon to celebrate the Russian Orthodox Christmas yesterday. **Page 11**

Pretty Polynesia: Lynne Truss on the South Pacific ..... **Page 3**

Get set, Middlemarch: George Eliot's novel comes to the television screen ..... **Page 5**

Mean teens? Hope for baffled parents in *Living With The Enemy* ..... **Page 6**

Backlash to basics

If Mr Major does not get a grip between now and May, an electoral debacle will be blamed not on tax rises but on him ..... **Page 15**

Fertile debate

The use of donated eggs and ovarian tissue raises new possibilities of genetic manipulation ..... **Page 15**

SIMON JENKINS

The parliamentary Conservative party emerges from the Yeo affair numb with shock. It cowers before the press. Who next will be shopped to the enemy? ..... **Page 14**

JULIAN CRITCHLEY

First Essex man, and now Suffolk woman. Will the Tory party, which has been coloured by the first, now come under the thumb of the second? ..... **Page 14**

Ethical and emotional aspects of in vitro fertilisation ..... **Page 15**

Among Nato's achievements is that it has kept its members from going to war with one another. An expanded Nato may eventually have that effect in an enlarged sphere. With Russia in the fold, a Nato changed from a conventional military alliance to a continental police force may be able to do better.

— Los Angeles Times

BUSINESS

Ladbroke: Cyril Stein, the former chairman of Ladbroke, is leaving the board as a non-executive director with £1 million in consultancy and other fees ..... **Page 19**

Paramount: Blockbuster Entertainment, the US video, music and film group, has emerged as a big player in the $10 billion poker game for Paramount Communications, the Hollywood studio ..... **Page 19**

Insurance: Buyers of life assurance policies are to be given more information about commission charges deducted from their premiums, but the move may increase the cost of those premiums ..... **Page 19**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose 43.0 points to 3446.0. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 82.2 to 82.3 ..... **Pages 19, 22**

SPORT

Cricket: Mark Ilott took four wickets for 32 as England A dismissed Northern Transvaal for 138 before collapsing and ending the day on 81 for four ..... **Page 34**

Golf: Ted Dexter was beaten in the third round of the President's Putter at Rye, but treated a hardy knot of spectators to some impressive shot-making ..... **Page 35**

Football: Everton are likely to have to face a Football Association enquiry over allegations that they persuaded Mike Walker to break his contract as manager of Norwich City ..... **Page 36**

Ice skating: Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean marked their return to competitive skating by winning the compulsory dances at the British championship ..... **Page 36**

For those in peril: Libby Purves pays tribute to the selfless heroism of the lifeboat service ..... **Page 1**

Wine winners: Jane MacQuitty advises on the year's bargain buys ..... **Page 4**

Orange appeal: Frances Bissell suggests some tangy dishes using Seville oranges and her own marmalade recipe ..... **Page 5**

Long good buy: Portobello Road market in west London sells everything under the sun, or rain, or hail ..... **Page 7**

Mildly Scilly: Francesca Greenoak envies the gentle climate of Tresco, the nearest thing in Britain to the Italian Riviera ..... **Page 12**

Dressed to swill: Paul Heiney on the latest creations from the farmyard ..... **Page 16**

The age of assent: Peter Barnard asks why current novels, plays and television series are so bland. "The oddity of this age of assent is that it has all the components of the very opposite: second-rate Government, invisible Opposition, recession, unemployment" **Weekend, page 14**

Broadway lady: A new staging of *My Fair Lady* has reached New York, with Richard Chamberlain as Professor Higgins. Behind the glitter lies a tussle between the director and the Alan Jay Lerner estate over a plan to "deconstruct" the musical ..... **Weekend, page 14**

Crazy buildings: An exhibition at the Courtauld Galleries introduces the paintings of weird buildings that characterise the work of Xul Solar ..... **Weekend page 14**

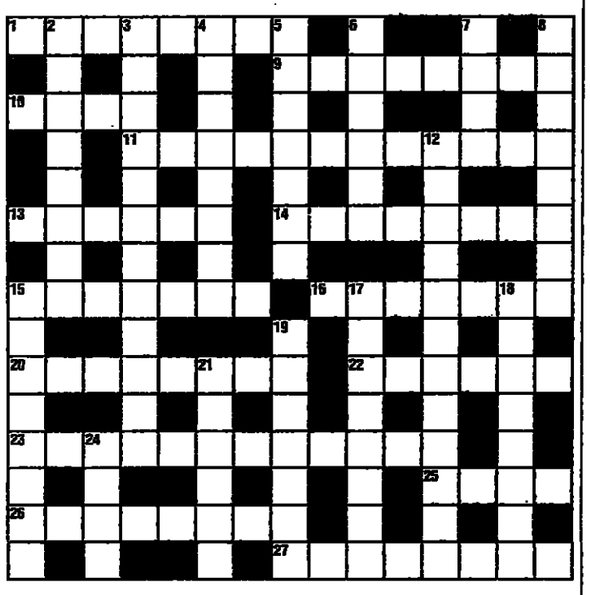
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,434

KNOCKANDO

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a beautifully crafted stationery rack, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address .....

.....



ACROSS

1 Relieved to find plenty of fuel around hospital (8).
9 False teeth are obtainable without effort (2,1,5).
10 Unknown ingredient in colour rejected by colourist (4).
11 Sailors whistle to get money (5,3,4).
13 Less symmetrical pin (6).
14 Natural impulse in street and in court (8).
15 Ball game uses edible ball (but not the outside) (7).
16 Supplements are dead and buried (7).
20 Temper kept within bounds (8).
22 On edge? Is it any use moving? Yes (6).
23 Weatherproof cover for sort of engine with boiler casing (6,6).
25 Workman is bananas (4).
26 Protection given to an engineer as a preliminary to battle (3,5).
27 A door led indirectly into a fabulous place (8).

DOWN

2 Blow for a farm-worker (8).
3 Escape from thin pipe (6,6).
4 I feel rig needs adapting for metal work (8).
5 Throw writer a flower (7).
6 Poignancy of a quiet musketeer (6).
7 Ask a lot of one vehicle (4).
8 Surgeon brought about conclusion to army's prolonged quarrel (8).
12 Were the faith abandoned, it would be a sign of cowardice (5,7).
15 Land is a disappointment (4-4).
17 Soak is to immerse in liquid — right in a way (8).
18 Intended having something done about board (8).
19 Papal representative given time finally becomes a beneficiary (7).
21 Somebody found in the Grand Canyon, exhausted (6).
24 Grass nearly always requires keeping cut right back (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,428

G	L	A	S	S	P	A	P	E	R		K	I	W	I
U		R		H		S		X			M		N	
S	Y	M	P	A	T	H	I	E	S		S	P	A	T
T		Y		R		E		R		M		A		E
			S	P	I	N	E	C	H	I	L	L	E	R
M		C		S			I		L		E		L	
A	N	O	P	H	E	L	E	S		T	E	M	P	O
T		M		O		E		O		E		P		
C	O	M	P	O		O	R	D	I	N	A	N	C	E
H		O		T		K			K		T		R	
S	E	D	G	E	W	A	R	B	L	E	R			
T		R		L	E	Y		G		L				
I	V	O	R		P	I	G	E	O	N	H	O	L	E
C		U			K		C	E		A		A		
K	I	S	T		M	E	T	H	U	S	E	L	A	H

Solution to Puzzle No 19,433

S	C	O	T	C	H		S	P	E	C	I	F	I	C
	R		E		A		T		O		I		H	
R	E	P	A	I	R	E	R		D	U	E	N	N	A
	V		C		D		I		N		N		S	
P	A	T	H	E	T	I	C		A	T	T	E	S	T
	S		I		I		K			E		S		I
S		N	U	M	B	E	R	E	D		C		S	
B	E	R	G		E		N		N		H	O	P	E
A		A		E	S	T	I	M	A	T	E		I	
R		T		R			N		M		A		N	
N	O	I	S	E	S		Y	I	E	L	D	I	N	G
A		O		C			E		L		A			
C	A	N	U	T	E		A	L	L	I	A	N	C	E
L		A		O			R		E		N		L	
E	N	L	A	R	G	E	S		D	O	D	G	E	R

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: Eastbourne 8C (46F); lowest day max: Spadeadam, Cumbria 0C (32F); highest rainfall: Poole, Dorset 0.98in; highest sunshine: Newcastle upon Tyne 4.7hr.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: J L Hudson, Trevor Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham; K B Roche, Hillcrest Road, Walton, Liverpool; F Davidson, Swanton Morley, Dereham, Norfolk; S Tarrant, Redgrave, Diss, Norfolk; A R Tulley, Wembury, Plymouth.

Tourist rates are on page 22

TIMES WEATHERCALL

☐ **General:** A band of rain will spread east across the country, but is not expected to reach northeast Scotland until after midnight. The rain could turn to sleet and snow, especially from the southern Pennines northwards where there will be drifting in strong winds. Fog could be slow to clear in central and eastern England and Scotland but there should be brighter spells before the cloud thickens. Clearer, drier weather will spread into southwest England and the Channel Islands later this evening.

☐ **SE and E England, E Anglia and E Midlands:** Some fog will be slow to clear. Rain from the West tonight will turn to sleet or snow. Wind SE light, becoming fresh to strong later, perhaps gale in places. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Wales, Central S and NW England, W Midlands, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW and NW Scotland, Glasgow and Argyll:** Fog patches at first, rain from the west this afternoon, turning to sleet or snow for a time. Wind SE light, becoming fresh to strong, perhaps gale in places. Max 3 to 5C (37 to 41F).

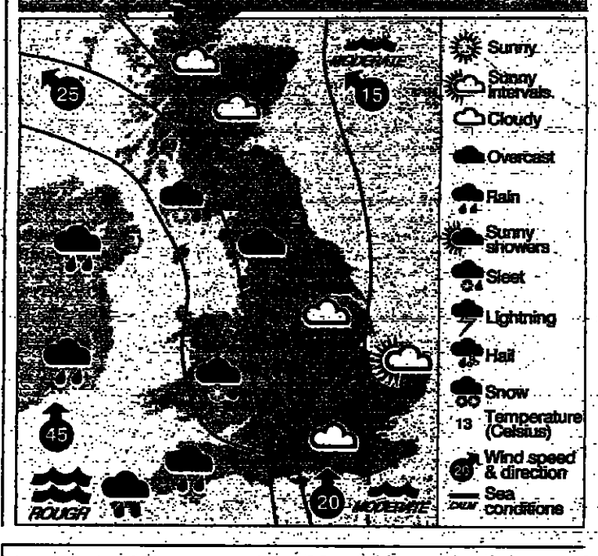
☐ **SW England and Channel Islands:** Rain from the west this morning, becoming clearer and drier from the west this evening. Wind SE strong to gale, becoming SW fresh to strong this evening. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Central N and NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Central Highlands and Moray Firth:** Some fog slow to clear. Rain from west this evening, turning to sleet and snow, especially on higher ground. Wind SE light, becoming fresh to strong later. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Aberdeen, NE Scotland, Orkney and Shetland:** Bright or sunny, perhaps showers. Wind N light, becoming SE, increasing fresh to strong later. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **N Ireland:** Rain spreading eastwards this morning and persisting. Wind SE moderate, becoming fresh to strong. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Outlook:** Rain will spread tomorrow, with showers on Monday.



t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; fr=fair; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; dl=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

	C	F			C	F			C	F		
Aberdeen	5	41	r	Dubrovnik	15	59	f	Luxor	21	70	s	S Paulo	25	77	c
Ajaccio	14	57	c	Dunbar	X			Madrid	5	41	c	Salcombe	X		
Alicante	18	64	f	Eastbourne	8	46	r	Majorca	15	59	c	Salzburg	11	52	s
Alex'dria	19	66	f	Edinburgh	5	41	r	Malaga	12	54	r	Sandown	6	43	sn
Algiers	17	63	s	Eskdalemuir	2	36	sn	Malta	18	64	s	Santiago	16	61	s
Amst'dm	7	45	c	Exmouth	3	37	sn	Manchester	3	37	b	Saunts Snd	5	41	s
Anglesey	6	43	sh	Falmouth	6	43	h	Margate	7	45	r	Scarboro'	2	36	c
Aspatria	2	36	sl	Faro	7	45	f	Melb'rne	16	61	f	Scilly Isles	7	45	b
Athens	16	61	f	Florence	13	55	f	Mexico C	17	63	s	Seoul	4	39	s
Aviemore	3	37	r	Folkestone	7	45	r	Miami	23	73	c	Shanklin	X		
B Aires	31	88	f	Frankfurt	8	46	r	Milan	7	45	r	Skegness	X	X	s
Bahrain	20	68	f	Funchal	20	68	f	Minehead	3	37	c	Southend	6	43	r
Bangkok	33	91	f	Geneva	6	43	r	Montreal	-27	-17	s	Southport	6	43	r
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	12	54	r	Morecambe	5	41	c	Southsea	5	41	sn
Barcelona	13	55	r	Glasgow	5	41	r	Moscow	-2	28	sn	St'kholm	1	34	sl
Beirut	17	63	f	Guernsey	7	45	sh	Munich	10	50	c	Stornoway	6	43	h
Belfast	5	41	sl	Hastings	7	45	r	N Delhi	20	68	s	Strasb'rg	7	45	r
Belgrade	11	52	s	Hayling I.	X			N York	4	21	f	Swanage	5	41	sl
Berlin	8	46	f	Helsinki	-5	23	sn	Nairobi	25	77	f	Sydney	35	95	s
Bermuda	21	70	f	Herne Bay	7	45	sh	Naples	14	57	f	Tangier	11	52	r
Biarritz	6	43	r	Hong K	25	77	s	Newcastle	6	43	s	Teignmouth	4	39	c
Birmingham	4	39	b	Hunstanton	5	41	c	Newquay	X			Tel Aviv	19	66	s
Blackpool	4	39	f	Innsbruck	10	50	f	Nice	13	55	r	Tenby	5	41	s
Bognor R	5	41	sh	Inverness	5	41	r	Norwich	5	41	r	Tenerife	18	64	s
Borde'x	7	45	f	Isle of Man	5	41	r	Nottingham	X			Tiree	6	43	c
Bournem'th	5	41	sl	Istanbul	13	55	f	Oslo	1	34	sn	Tokyo	9	48	s
Bristol	3	37	fg	Jeddah	29	84	s	Paris	8	46	c	Toronto	-14	7	sn
Brussels	8	46	f	Jersey	6	43	h	Peking	6	41	s	Torquay	6	43	h
Budapest	9	48	f	Jo'burg	24	75	f	Penzance	8	46	h	Tunis	18	64	s
Buxton	2	36	s	Kinloss	5	41	r	Perth	25	77	s	Tynemouth	5	41	s
Cairo	18	64	s	L Angels	16	61	s	Plymouth	5	41	c	Valencia	14	57	c
Cape Tn	30	86	s	L Palmas	19	66	f	Poole	4	39	sl	Vent'ver	4	39	c
Cardiff	2	36	c	Le Touq't	8	46	f	Prague	5	41	f	Venice	8	46	c
Ch'church	19	66	f	Leeds	4	39	c	Reykjavik	-0	18	s	Vienna	5	41	sn
Chicago	0	32	sn	Lerwick	5	41	c	Rhodes	16	61	s	Vilamra	11	52	f
Clacton	5	43	sh	Leuchars	6	43	r	Rio de J	28	82	f	Warsaw	7	45	s
Cologne	9	48	c	Lisbon	9	48	s	Riyadh	18	64	s	Wash'ton	4	39	s
Colwyn Bay	6	43	r	Littlehmpton	6	43	r	Rome	15	59	c	Wel'ngton	19	66	s
Corfu	17	63	f	Liverpool	4	39	sh	Ronaldsway	4	39	r	West-s-mare	6	43	r
C'phagn	4	39	f	London	7	45	r	Ross-o-wye	3	37	c	Weymouth	5	41	sl
Cromer	4	39	r	Lowestoft	7	45	r	Ryde	X			Wick	5	41	r
Dublin	0	32	sn	Luxembg	6	43	r	S Frisco	11	52	c	Zurich	5	41	f

UK temperatures are daytime maximums, ones abroad at midday local time. X= figures not available

	Sun rises:	Sun sets:	Moon sets	Moon rises
New Moon January 11	8.04 am	4.11pm	1.4 pm	4.31 am

London 4.11 pm to 8.04 am
Bristol 4.21 pm to 8.14 am
Edinburgh 3.59 pm to 8.41 am
Manchester 4.08 pm to 8.23 am
Penzance 4.38 pm to 8.20 am

	Sun rises:	Sun sets:	Moon sets	Moon rises
New Moon January 11	8.04 am	4.12pm	1.57 pm	5.37 am

London 4.12 pm to 8.04 am
Bristol 4.22 pm to 8.13 am
Edinburgh 4.01 pm to 8.40 am
Manchester 4.10 pm to 8.22 am
Penzance 4.40 pm to 8.19 am

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8.49	6.29	9.41	6.40	Liverpool	10.27	7.86	10.59	8.11
Aberdeen	8.56	3.71	9.25	3.87	Lowestoft	4.15	2.39	5.24	2.19
Avonmouth	1.56	10.7	2.39	10.9	Margate	8.51	4.33	7.46	4.25
Belfast	6.23	3.02	6.50	3.28	Milford Haven	1.10	5.71	1.45	5.80
Cardiff	1.41	10.0	2.18	10.2	Newquay	12.10	5.80	12.45	5.90
Devonport	12.35	4.80	1.09	4.60	Oban	1.05	3.10	1.48	3.2
Dover	8.03	5.88	8.45	5.63	Penzance	—	—	12.24	4.6
Falmouth	12.05	4.40	12.39	4.40	Portland	1.20	1.60	1.31	1.60
Glasgow	7.58	4.10	8.04	4.40	Portsmouth	6.30	4.30	7.07	4.10
Harwich	6.37	3.53	7.26	3.46	Shoreham	5.16	5.38	7.04	5.17
Holyhead	11.51	1.89	—	—	Southampton	6.13	4.10	6.52	3.97
Hull	12.54	6.58	1.52	6.35	Swansea	1.15	7.86	1.50	7.97
Ilfracombe	12.50	7.61	1.25	7.73	Tees	11.20	4.55	11.48	4.69
King's Lynn	1.02	5.70	1.59	5.40	Wales-on-Nas	8.34	3.72	7.28	3.64
Leith	10.03	4.84	10.36	4.91					

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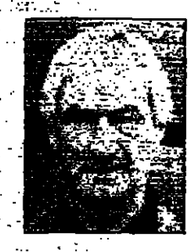
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PROFILE 21

Repackaging Bunzl for the Nineties



FOOTBALL 32

Walker's walk-out leaves the way open for Everton



PORTRAIT 34

T and D still weaving own brand of magic

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES
Page 33

THE TIMES

SATURDAY JANUARY 8 1994



PETER TREVNOR

High fashion: British Airways crew on Concorde yesterday launched the airline's new uniform, created by the international designer Paul Costelloe. Introduction of the 1994 look, worn here by Nicola Peet, coincides with BA's 75th anniversary US proposals welcomed, page 20

Stein leaves with £1m from Ladbroke

By Patricia Tehan

CYRIL Stein, the former chairman of Ladbroke, the heavily indebted DIY-to-hotels group, is leaving the board with £1 million in consultancy and other fees.

News that he is to relinquish his non-executive directorship came just a week after the new chairman took over. It surprised observers and is widely interpreted as paving the way for sweeping changes.

The announcement sent the shares up 14p to 194p. This compares with last month's low of 144p.

Analysts put the rise down to a return of confidence in Ladbroke and hopes that the new management will "clear the stables".

Mr Stein had spent 37 years building up Ladbroke. In September, he announced his plans to retire at the year end, but also said he would remain as non-executive director for three years. He made it clear then that he wanted a leading role as an active non-executive director and as chairman of the property division.

He will receive £200,000 for the payments he would have been entitled to until the end of 1996 for those posts. He will also receive £160,000 a year for five years for his services as consultant. John Jackson, the new chairman, said yesterday: "The world is populated by human beings and Cyril is a human being." He said that when Mr Stein first made up his mind to hand over his executive responsibilities, he remained interested in the business, he had an emotional investment in the company, and his family trusts had large investments in it.

However, as the months passed "he has been more doubtful about whether he really wanted to do it," said Mr Jackson. He said Mr Stein began to ask himself if "he would be able to discipline himself to behave as a non-executive director".

He added: "He and I came to the conclusion that in everybody's interests he should not do it." Mr Jackson said Ladbroke intends to use Mr Stein "quite a lot". He said: "He has considerable knowledge of the racing business and a very extensive network of contacts which could be extremely useful in the hotel business."

Mr Jackson added: "Ladbroke is interested in expanding the hotel business and we are interested in good opportunities where people want to invest in the bricks and mortar and are looking for a good operator." He said if Mr Stein provides one such opportunity a year it will more than cover the cost of his consultancy fee.

He said the consultancy arrangement is on a "don't call us, we will call you" basis. Mr Stein has been seen as opposed to a much-needed cut in the dividend. Institutional investors have been lobbying his successors to cut the payment to a level from which it can grow. At the half year, it was uncovered by earnings. Analysts expect the final payment to be halved to 3p.

Mr Jackson said that when Ladbroke unveils its finals on March 3 "we want to give a very full and open description of our position". He said the company wanted to explain its strategy, and display "a powerful management team".

The company had "the most powerful hotel brand name in the world, the most powerful betting brand, a strong DIY brand and a large number of property assets which are begging to be turned into cash".

The book value of Ladbroke's property portfolio was £830 million at end-June. Mr Jackson said: "We are gradually turning that portfolio into cash."

In a statement, Ladbroke said that Mr Stein had come to the conclusion that after being executive chairman of the group since it became a public company in 1967, the role of a non-executive director originally intended would not be in the company's or his own best interests.



Stein: consultancy fees

Tempus, page 21

Insurers to reveal agents' charges

By Rose Wild
Personal Finance Editor

BUYERS of life assurance policies are to be given more information about commission charges deducted from their premiums; but there are fears that premiums will rise because of the estimated £100 million cost to the industry of providing the information.

In a consultative document published yesterday, the Securities and Investments Board stated that, from January 1995, all financial advisers selling life assurance policies must disclose, to the investor at the point of sale, the commission they will receive in cash terms, before the investor signs anything.

This rule will apply to tied agents, including banks, building societies and estate agents, as well as to independent financial advisers.

Investors must also be given more information about the surrender values of their policy throughout its term. Illustrations of future performance must be based on the charges of the individual company, rather than the industry standard charge used now.

Commission tables will be published. The SIB says that it regards publicity as the industry's best weapon in ensuring fair charges. Discrepancies would be easily visible and the regulator would have powers to call in independent auditors to investigate, it says.

It is not clear how much of the costs will be passed on to the consumer. Philip Scott, general manager of Norwich Union's life and pensions division, says that by definition the costs of a mutual company have to be borne by the customers. But he said: "One would expect implementation to add pressure to drive down prices. My gut feeling is that the general intensification of competition will more than outweigh the extra cost as far as the consumer is concerned."

Comment, page 23

Viacom seeks last-ditch link to win Paramount

From Philip Robinson in New York

WAYNE Huizenga, chairman of Blockbuster Entertainment, the US video, music and film group, emerged last night as a key player in the $10 billion poker game for Paramount Communications, the Hollywood studio.

Wall Street speculates that he is about to merge Blockbuster with Viacom, the cable television company that is under pressure to raise its offer for Paramount. A merger would create an entertainment giant worth almost $12 billion, with a strong balance sheet. That would provide the foundation for a bid to top the current highest offer for Paramount, from QVC Network, the shopping television channel headed by Barry Diller.

Last month, Blockbuster's banks tripled its credit to $1 billion. The company insisted that this was for internal expansion and not linked to any bid for Paramount. But it has already pledged $600 million to support Viacom's offer. Viacom needs a further $600 million to maintain itself as a serious rival. Final bids were due in at 5pm New York time yesterday.

Analysts said that Viacom faced acute timing difficulties. Even if it failed to make a move before the deadline, however, it could urge Paramount shareholders not to tender their shares to QVC but to wait for a new Viacom offer.

In Britain, rival bidders have a defined timetable for wooing shareholders, but a contested US takeover tends to go on like a poker game until only one bidder is left. Should Viacom raise its bid, QVC will have ten days to respond. A deal with Viacom would be a quantum leap for Mr Huizenga, aged 56. He has a 9.2 per cent stake in Blockbuster, worth $576 million, and share options that could eventually be valued at more than $1 billion. In the past 18 months, he has developed Blockbuster from America's leading video rental chain into an international video, music and film group.

The company, based at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, assumed a higher profile in 1992 with the sponsorship of a concert tour by Paul McCartney. Since then, it has become the largest video chain in Britain, buying Cityvision: has linked with Richard Branson's Virgin Group to create Megastores across America; and has bought large stakes in two film makers, giving it ownership of television series that include *Twin Peaks* and *Beverly Hills 90210*. It also has the rights to *Basic Instinct*, vintage Roy Rogers westerns and others starring John Wayne.

For Blockbuster to merge with Viacom, however, Sumner Redstone, Viacom's 70-year-old boss, would have to cede part of his 76 per cent holding. Industry sources doubt that he would want to do that, but say his desire for control would have to be balanced against his ambition to emerge the victor in the battle for Paramount.

Paramount's board recommended his first offer, but switched sides when QVC came up with more money. QVC is currently offering $92 a share for 51 per cent of Paramount. Viacom's cash bid is $85 a share. Taken with paper elements of the bids, QVC's total package values Paramount at $9.8 billion. Viacom's at $9.3 billion.

Paramount's shares firmed by 50 cents, to $79, by lunchtime yesterday; Blockbuster's were $2.25 down at $27.625.

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

WEEKEND MONEY

COLD FEET



As estate agents report a surge of would-be buyers, mortgage lenders seem to be suffering an attack of cold feet
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WARM WAVES

Not all subscribers to private medical insurance will feel the effects of the Budget's new tax charge
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FLOOD ALERT



Knee-deep householders may find insurers unwilling to replace weather-damaged goods
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HOTLINE

A hotline for nurses worried about their pensions uncovers further evidence of mis-selling
Page 24

Spending spree adds £11bn to shares

By Michael Clark and Janet Bush

THE London stock market went on a massive spending spree that added £11.1 billion to the value of Britain's publicly-quoted companies.

The new year rush for shares brought the FT-SE 100 index to within 16 points of its closing high of 3,462.0 after finishing near its best of the day, 43.0 points up at 3,446.0.

This follows Thursday's 50 point turnround in the index, which succeeded in wiping out earlier losses recorded after the Christmas break. The rise on the week is 27.6 points.

Trading conditions were frantic. By the close, the number of shares changing hands had topped more than 1 billion. Dealers reported foreign and domestic institutional support, with hopes of another cut in interest rates revived.

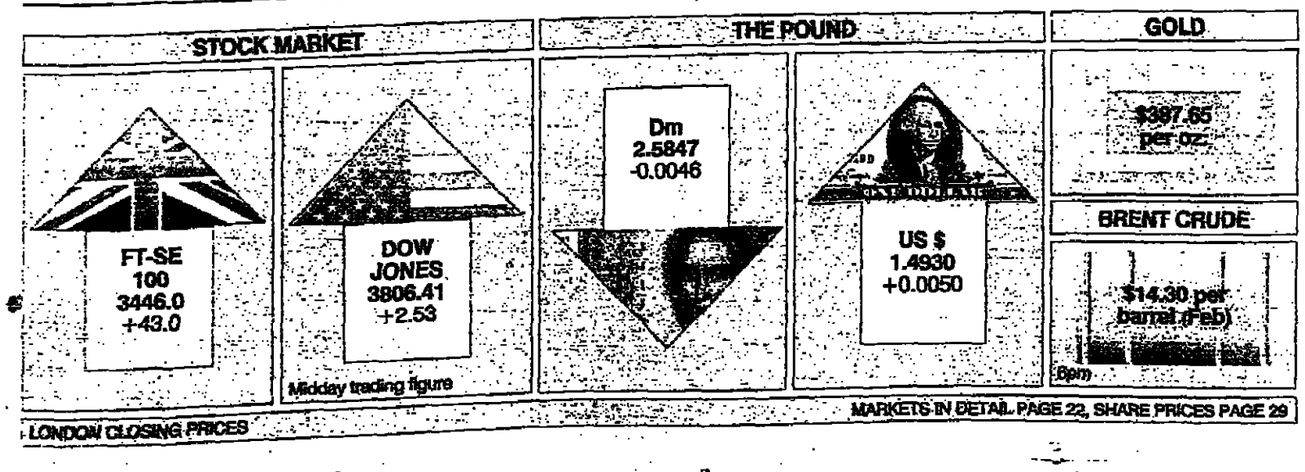
Sterling closed yesterday at its highest level against a basket of currencies since leaving the ERM in September, 1992. Its trade weighted index edged higher to end at 82.3 from 82.2. Sterling closed at DM2.5847 compared with Thursday's finish at DM2.5893 and the five-month high of DM2.5903 hit this week.

Sterling was higher against the dollar. The US currency slipped back to end at $1.4930 to the pound, compared with Thursday's close at $1.4880.

In Britain, the Council of Mortgage Lenders said that it expected the recovery in the housing market to strengthen throughout this year, in spite of figures yesterday showing that mortgage lending fell back in November.

Bank of England figures showed net lending for house purchases by banks, building societies and specialist lenders fell to a seasonally-adjusted £1.65 billion in November from £1.88 billion in October. Unadjusted lending fell to £1.66 billion from £1.68 billion.

Market report, page 22



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American jobless rate at lowest for three years

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

AMERICA'S unemployment rate last month dropped to its lowest level in three years, raising the prospect that the US economy will move towards "full" employment by the end of the year. The rate of unemployment nationwide fell from 6.5 per cent in November to 6.4 per cent last month, the lowest rate since January 1991.

The latest figures underline a picture of a strong recovery, which gathered pace in the fourth quarter of last year and is expected to continue throughout 1994. Lloyd Bentsen, the Treasury Secretary, said this week that the economy had grown by between 4 and 5 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1993. For this year, he forecast a growth rate of at least 3 per cent. In total, the American economy added a further 183,000 jobs last month, according the labour department. Most of them are service jobs in the business, government and retail sectors. However, the statistical trend of falling unemployment coincides with continued "downsizing" and "outsizing" in the labour force by large companies. The global statistics thus underestimate the growth in employment in the small and medium-sized company sector.

Manufacturing jobs fell 183,000 last year, while service jobs were up by almost 2 million, including 400,000 in the retail sector. The government payroll was up 180,000. There were strong losses in the defence industry and gains in financial services. Temporary workers accounted for more than half of the new jobs in the service sector. The differing trends in manufacturing and services have had a strong impact on the regional distribution of unemployment. America's East Coast and several southern states are booming, while the West Coast and the mid-western rustbelt are still in deep recession.

In Michigan, home of Detroit's car industry, the unemployment rate rose last month from 7 to 7.5 per cent. The rate was also up in California, at 8.6 per cent. Suggestions of an economic recovery have a hollow ring for defence workers in San Diego, California, and car workers in Detroit, Michigan, especially among those who were laid off in the last recession and who have little prospect of finding jobs soon.

By contrast, North Carolina's economy is booming, with unemployment at 4.1 per cent. If the current trend continues throughout the year, as some economists forecast, parts of America will be moving towards what economists regard to be "full" employment, a euphemism for an average national unemployment rate of slightly above 5 per cent.

The fall in unemployment from 7.1 per cent to 6.4 per cent in 1993 occurred without a surge in prices. In relation to the rate of unemployment, Mr Bentsen said: "We are going to go down some more before you see any pressure for increases in inflation." The Administration believes that the non-inflationary rate of unemployment is about 5.5 per cent, while conservative economists, most notably Martin Feldstein, former chief economist to President Reagan, believe that it could be as high as 6.1 per cent.

New head of Takeover Panel aims to stop leaks

■ The incoming Director-General of the Takeover Panel expects more deals in the next few years, so he is keen to stop the leaks of price-sensitive information

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM Staple, a director of N M Rothschild, the merchant bank, is expected to implement a clampdown on the leaking of price-sensitive information to the stock market before a bid or acquisition, when he takes over as Director-General of the Takeover Panel in March.

Mr Staple, whose appointment was announced yesterday, said: "I have certain bugbears that I have had as a practitioner. The leaking of information is something that I want to look at. It is quite a problem for people involved in takeovers."

He plans to see if the Takeover Code can be tightened up in this area.

His comments echo those made by the Stock Exchange, which has been trying to clamp down on selective leaking of information.

Mr Staple, a mergers and acquisitions specialist, will succeed Frances Heaton, who will be returning to Lazards. Mrs Heaton had an untypically peaceful time during her tenure. Last year was one of the quietest on record for mergers and acquisitions.

Mr Staple, who will be on a two-year secondment from Rothschild, said that he also plans to continue the work of his predecessors in resisting proposals in a European directive which, if implemented, would impose a statutory system on European countries, including the UK. He said he believes the Takeover Panel is "the right system for the market that we have".

His appointment was made by Sir David Calcutt, the Panel's chairman, with the approval of Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England.

He said he expects the mergers and acquisitions market to be much more active over the next few years than it has been in the last two, adding: "If I am right then I think that I will be very busy."

Mr Staple, 46, joined Rothschild in 1981 from Cazenove & Co, where he worked in corporate broking. He practised as a barrister between 1971 and 1972.

He was educated at Hailebury and then at the Law Society's College of Law.

In his time at Rothschild, he has been involved in corporate advisory work including stock market flotations, mergers and acquisitions, and secondary financings.

He advised Hanson on its takeovers of London Brick, Imperial Group and Consolidated Goldfields and on a £500 million rights issue. He worked with Sun Alliance on its acquisition of Phoenix Assurance and with Bowthorpe on a £64 million rights issue.

Mr Staple is the younger brother of George Staple, head of the Serious Fraud Office, who was formerly a senior litigation partner at Clifford Chance, the City solicitors.



Francis Mackay, left, Compass chief executive, and Larry Cates, of Pizza Hut, celebrate the link-up deal.

Pizza Hut in joint deal for new outlets

PIZZA Hut is expanding away from the high street in a deal announced yesterday with Compass Group, the catering company (Martin Flanagan writes). Compass will run Pizza Hut kiosk-style operations in airports, stations, workplaces, and health, educational and sports centres in the UK. The aim is to offer Pizza Hut's products in up to 50 new outlets in the next 18 months. Further talks are continuing on extending the agreement to mainland Europe.

US airline proposals win guarded welcome

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

THE Clinton Administration's proposals to relax strict rules on foreign ownership of American airlines has been welcomed by Britain's transport department as a "step in the right direction" that could break the deadlock in Anglo-American talks on freer skies.

However, British Airways, which wants to increase its almost 25 per cent stake in USAir, the American carrier, was guarded in its response to Thursday's proposal from Federico Peña, the US transport secretary, that non-US firms could own up to 49 per cent of US carriers, against the present ceiling of 25 per cent.

BA said it welcomed the American initiative but wanted to see the fine print of the proposals before giving a definitive response. The White House has no power to raise the limit on foreign ownership of American carriers, which is a matter for Congress.

Washington has made BA's stake in USAir, and the two airlines' increasing co-operation, a bargaining tool in bilateral air transport talks, which have at times threatened to deteriorate into a transatlantic air war. The Americans want more access to London Heathrow, Europe's premier hub airport.

BA has deliberately sought to keep out of the government-to-government battle, arguing that its USAir interests are purely commercial.

Since BA said, last summer, that it would like to raise its stake in USAir to 41 per cent, it has been hit by American measures against its code-sharing arrangements with its US partner. The restrictions provoked the British government into taking a tough stance, with the transport department even threatening to start reducing the number of US flights to Britain.

BA invested $300 million in USAir last year, with a view to increasing its investment to $750 million over four years to acquire a stake of more than 40 per cent.

British transport department officials are due in Washington on January 18 for the next round of the bilateral aviation talks. Despite both sides public commitment to an "open skies" policy, agreement have proven elusive. Last year, negotiators agreed to reach a deal by this April to replace a treaty dating from 1977.

There have been fears that American restrictions on BA's code-sharing arrangement with USAir could have caused a serious breakdown in relations ahead of next week's negotiations. But Washington's decision to extend its temporary approval defused the situation.

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, which has a 20 per cent stake in Northwest Airlines, the US carrier, said it too wanted to wait and see what America actually delivers on the question of foreign ownership. Peter Bouw, KLM chairman, has said that his airline is in no hurry to increase its stake.

Air UK profits from Heathrow crowding

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

GROWING frustration among many businessmen with London's overcrowded Heathrow airport helped Air UK, the independent scheduled airline, to turn a £12 million loss in 1992 into a £200,000 profit last year.

The airline, which is 15 per cent owned by KLM, the Dutch flag-carrier, carried more than 100,000 passengers on the Newcastle to Amsterdam route last year, an increase of 34 per cent. More than half then caught a KLM long-range service.

Air UK now flies to Amsterdam from nine UK airports and the numbers using the Dutch capital as a transfer airport in preference to London grew by 17 per cent last year, to more than 661,000.

Stansted, Air UK's main base, was used by 850,000 travellers in 1993, an increase of 18 per cent. Business services to Düsseldorf, Amsterdam and Paris all did particularly well and Air UK plans to lease another eight turbo-prop aircraft to meet the demand.

"The trend is quite clear," said Andrew Gray, the airline's managing director. "Each of the last quarter's figures has been better than its predecessor and there is every indication that this trend will continue this year.



Gray: sees clear trend

to give us an even better profit in 12 months' time. There is no doubt that people are beginning to see the advantage of using Stansted for point-to-point services and to change aircraft in Amsterdam. This is especially beneficial for people living in the North East and using regional airports such as Humberside, Leeds or Newcastle."

The airline plans to introduce three new routes from Stansted in March — to Munich, Copenhagen and Belfast — and additional services on the Paris, Amsterdam and Düsseldorf routes.

It will be many years, however, before Air UK can hope to recoup the £30 million it has invested in developing services around Stansted. It is also suffering from the refusal of major international airlines to move into Stansted.

Short Brothers to shed 429 workers in Belfast

SHORT Brothers is to shed 429 jobs at its Belfast aircraft and missile plants. Some 229 jobs will go from the aircraft business, while another 200 people will go at Shorts Missile Systems, which is jointly owned with Thomson CSF of France. Managers said they hoped the cuts could be achieved by voluntary redundancies and natural wastage.

Shorts blamed defence cuts and a worldwide decline in civil aircraft orders. However, the job losses come against a background of remarkable commercial success at the company, which is Northern Ireland's biggest manufacturing employer. Since the former state-owned planemaker was sold to Bombardier of Canada in 1989 sales have doubled to around £400 million. Total employment at the company has increased because of expansion in Europe and the acquisition of Airwork at Bournemouth, although the number employed in Belfast has declined by 500 to 7,122 as efficiency has improved.

SEC studies dealings

THE US Securities and Exchange Commission is investigating the dealings of an American fund manager who was employed by Invesco, the UK money management group, and dismissed this week for allegedly violating its trading rules. John Kaweske, 53, was involved in managing $4.6 billion of assets in three funds for Invesco Trust. He was was dismissed for allegedly breaching the company's internal codes of conduct on personal share dealings.

Lloyds Chemists ahead

LLOYDS Chemists said overall group sales rose 17 per cent in the six months to December 31 to more than £460 million, helped by improved like-for-like sales by all three retail divisions. Barclay Enterprise, the wholesale operation, increased sales by 80 per cent to £94 million. Allen Lloyd, chairman, said: "These figures are most pleasing and demonstrate that our business is still growing." The shares ended the day 3p up at 358p.

United Carriers to float

MORE than 40 directors and managers of United Carriers will have a stake worth about £16 million when the group goes public, via a placing with institutions, in the next three months. It is estimated that the road transport company will have a stock market value of between £40 million and £50 million. In 1992, the group made operating profit on continuing activities, before exceptional items, of £4.5 million; says last year's figures are likely to be better.

Limit spreads capacity

LONDON Insurance Market Investment Trust (Limit), largest of the new corporate names at Lloyd's of London, has placed £502.5 million of underwriting capacity on 101 syndicates for the 1994 year of account. This is £22 million more than originally agreed in November.

□ A report on Lloyd's capacity (January 6) referred to the collapse of Lutine. This referred to Lutine Capital Company and not Lutine Assurance Services, which is still trading.

Abrahams to leave SNC

ANTHONY Abrahams, managing director of UK market-making at Smith New Court, is to retire at the end of April. He will be succeeded by his deputy, David Marks, 51. Although Mr Abrahams will retire from his executive duties, he will remain a non-executive director. Mr Marks, no relation to Michael Marks, Smith's chief executive, joined in 1960 as a trainee from school. Colin Taylor, together with Adrian Pinkus, will be joint deputy managing directors.

Melvyn Marckus is on holiday

Ford holds off Vauxhall challenge

BY ROSS TIEMAN

ANNUAL figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders have confirmed that Ford retained its title as Britain's best-selling car maker last year with 21.5 per cent of the market, despite a growing challenge from Vauxhall, whose market share rose to 17.1 per cent from 16.7 per cent.

Rover remained in third place with 13.4 per cent, but scored well in December, when its 200 model climbed to second in the sales league behind the Ford Mondeo.

Britain was the only significant car market in Europe to record growth in 1993, with total sales up 11.6 per cent at 1.77 million. Sales of lorries over 3.5 tonnes rose 15.8 per cent to 36,358 vehicles. But sales of medium vans fell a further 3.5 per cent.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

"Almost every newspaper baron in Britain could afford to smile. Now, they hope, the leash around their necks will be loosened. David Montgomery of the Mirror Group said: "The battle is over. The regulators have got to face up to the technological advances and change the rules . . ."

Business Focus — The Sunday Times tomorrow

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NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY IS A MEMBER OF LAUTRO

BUNZL: Anthony Habgood and David Williams

Hangover remedy after an acquisition binge

partners in power

Martin Waller profiles the two men brought in after a boardroom clear-out to halt a profits slide at the paper and packaging group

The creation of a business requires a particular breed of manager — aggressive, deal-driven and certain of his or her own skills. There were any number around in the bull market of the last decade and probably a handful survive. Looming larger now in the corporate imagination is a second type — those who are better at putting things back together again.

James White was never one to grace the lifestyle pages, and the company he largely created in an acquisition frenzy was never a household name. But both he and the less than euphoniously named Bunzl, which makes unromantic paper and packaging products such as cigarette filters, typified the fast-growth 1980s.

White, who filled both the chairman and chief executive's roles, departed in a savage and wide-ranging round of bloodletting on the Bunzl board in late 1990. Profits were on the slide, and the City was even more concerned about the accounting policies that had allowed them to be stated. What was needed was a steady hand, some swift disposals and a quiet couple of years while trust with the City could be rebuilt.

At around the same time, Anthony Habgood and David Williams were undergoing their own corporate trial by fire, running Tootal, the textiles concern, and staring down the barrel of an unwelcome bid from Sir David Alliance's Coats Viyella. Sir David started off with the heavy artillery, a near-30 per cent stake in his quarry that had been touted around various potential predators for much of the previous decade.

Habgood, whose unusual name betrays a family relationship with the Archbishop of York, had spent a decade and a half as a management consultant, with the obligatory terms in the States, Germany and Japan, before moving across to run a clutch of businesses at Tootal.

Williams, after a conventional accountancy background, had worked his way up through the ranks of various Tootal subsidiaries, where he had encountered Habgood and been marked down as a man with what the latter, betraying his American business school roots, describes as "upward potential".

Habgood became chief executive at the end of 1990, Williams his finance man shortly after. What is undeniable is that neither had any experience in fighting a determined bid battle from the inside. They made a good fist of it, the City believes. Cost-cutting that was already under way allowed an unexpectedly good profits forecast to force a higher offer. But by the middle of 1991, both were out on the street.

Williams, in a show of apparent self-confidence that belies his unassuming demeanour, says he had no doubt he would find another job. Habgood had reason to be confident: he had received unsolicited approaches shortly after the bid was lost, although he denies even considering an escape route while the struggle was being waged. "If you're concentrating on winning, things like 'what happens if you lose?' are diversions that you don't respond to," he says.

David Kendall, who had taken over as chairman of Bunzl, made the approach in mid-1991 through headhunters. Habgood, formally on board in the autumn, had to start pretty well from scratch, such had been the extent of the board clear-out. He certainly needed a new finance man, not least to sort out the books. Habgood is noticeably reticent at describing the mess that he walked into, and anecdotes from outsiders he dismisses as hearsay. Surprisingly, he has never met White, his predecessor.

The first tasks were the sale of many of the businesses bought during the previous decade, many of which would never make acceptable margins, and a heavy round of cost-cutting. Shareholders took some of the pain: the first dividend after Habgood's arrival was severely cut. Much of the work during the bid at Tootal had fallen on his shoulders, and insiders believe Habgood was shocked by the experience. At Bunzl, despite the support of non-executives such as Kendall, he was also operating without a safety net. Although he presents himself as the typical forceful, pin-striped executive, he is startlingly nervous, with hands that are never still and nails bitten to the quick. City observers say such nervousness extends even to his presentations there.

> I'm happy out in the business; you can't run a group like this if you are of a mind to count beans

"It seems odd that a man who started as a management consultant should have such difficulty selling himself," says one. "We've all met people of high calibre like White who then go pop — perhaps when they hired Habgood they were bending over backwards not to get another one.

"He has achieved a classic business school recovery of a company which bought everything that moved and a few things that didn't. But we don't yet know his abilities and skills at buying companies and putting them together. That's one area where as a member of the jury I'm still out."

His nerves aside, put the two men together and Habgood does almost all the talking, although he has the grace to look sheepish when this is pointed out. Williams's contributions to any conversation are few but well-made and pointed. "He appears quite happy to let Habgood do the talking," says the City source. "They work well together. But David is not quite as docile as he appears."

Richard Gilmore was on the defence team at Tootal but stayed on there when Coats took over. He says Habgood is "one of the most intelligent people I've worked with, with a good grasp of strategy, someone who can look at a set of numbers and understand their sense immediately." The nerves, he believes, reflect his former boss's intense nature. "He's not socially nervous, perhaps slightly socially gauche."

But Gilmore does believe there is a harder side. "Tony is very abrasive, he doesn't suffer fools gladly. He's very confrontational with people if he thinks they are being stupid."

In this, says Gilmore, Williams is almost the complete opposite. "He could not be described as a very cerebral person. He's very much more gentle, with an easy-going manner, though that doesn't make him a softy. He's personable, but quite tough inside." Williams's contribution to the team, he adds, are his good technical skills and an ability to manage detail. Habgood's tribute mirrors this. "He is an accomplished accountant with a clear commercial flair and understanding ... flair is too strong a word" — the retraction is a curious one — "a clear understanding of the commercial world".

The City believes that Habgood was determined above all else to have a finance man at his right hand whom he could trust implicitly. They are now clearly the two men at the top of Bunzl — the new chairman, Pat Dyer, now chief executive at BOC, is a non-executive.

Habgood, for his part, says he did not make the hiring of Williams, who arrived some months after him, a condition of his own appointment, but he concedes a strong influence on the board's decision.

"I wanted the board to feel comfortable," he says. "I knew what David's capabilities were, but David's track record as finance director of a public company was limited and I wanted it to be an active decision by the board."

Williams, whose favourite description of himself is "straightforward", refers to the defence of Tootal as "an interesting and challenging time". One can only wonder how he would describe being run down by a bus.

He sees the finance director's role in a business like Bunzl as rather more than merely keeping an eye on the books. "I'm very happy out in the business, on the factory floor or the distribution side, understanding the different businesses and how they work. You can't run a decentralised group like this if you are of a mind to count beans."

If the two men disagree, he says, it is most likely to be on the pace of things, with him arguing for slower progress. "Maybe in some areas I'm more cautious," he concedes. Habgood chips in: "I think there's something wrong with a relationship between a finance director and a chief executive if the finance director isn't more ... prone to cover himself, more into the detail of the things that can go wrong."

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Anthony Habgood, left, and David Williams were brought in by the reconstituted Bunzl board to provide a steady hand and rebuild the City's trust

TEMPUS

Stein departs from Ladbroke and leaves a dividend lottery

CYRIL Stein's resignation from the board of Ladbroke signals the end of an era and a widespread deck-clearing exercise. Given Ladbroke's financial strains, the second casualty is likely to be the dividend which is out of line with the company's performance.

Ladbroke has been dipping into reserves to fund the dividend, paying an unchanged interim of 4.92p while earnings declined from 4.73p to 3.98p.

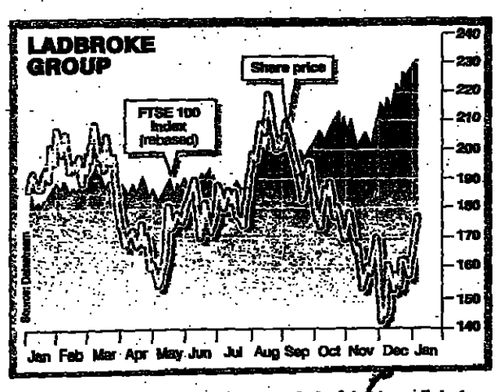
Market expectations are of a halved final of 3p, making 8p for the year with earnings of more than 9p on operating profits of £147 million.

Ladbroke's new management must give some tangible sign that there are buyers for its £830 million property portfolio. A strong statement on how it is planning to reduce its £1.3 billion net debt mountain would also be reassuring.

The new team will have to demonstrate that it can build up its Hilton hotel group and its betting shop chain, and that it can achieve an improved return from Texas Homecare.

The decision to take part in a National Lottery consortium is not a bad one. In failure, the cost is affordable. If it is the successful bidder a 25 per cent return on capital over five years is achievable.

Ladbroke's shares have already risen from their 144p low at the beginning of December last year. Even after yesterday's 194p the price can hardly be described as expensive. Given investors' interest in recovery stocks, one cannot rule out that the price will increase further, but until the management strategy is clear it remains one for the brave.



Oil shares

ONLY ten days ago oil markets were bathed in gloom, the February Brent Crude contract was trading just above $13 per barrel and the consensus view in the City was that most exploration and production stocks were priced too high. Suddenly, sentiment has changed: leading E&P stocks have bounced by as much as 7 per cent, February Brent is well over $14 and the oil sector is deemed to be "in recovery".

What has changed? The futures market became excited over noises from the Gulf Co-operation Council that Opec members were seeking agreement with non-Opec producers to cut outputs. However, Norway refused to cut North Sea production, a major source of the current oversupply. And Russia is unlikely to agree; production in the former Soviet Union is already in decline and the FSU states are keen to build up their faltering oil industry, not run it down.

Futures markets are about sentiment and hopes of an early Opec meeting helped oil prices to rally. But that scarcely justifies a rerating of the sector. Leading shares such as BP have risen consistently over last year in the face of a 25 per cent decline in crude prices leading some analysts to conclude that oil company shares had become disconnected from the value of the commodity itself.

Most analysts forecast Brent Crude to average $16 to $18 for 1994. On that basis, Enterprise Oil is valued at just under 400p per share while its market price is approaching 470p and we are nowhere near $17 a barrel. Without real signs of Opec readiness to cut production, this rally looks premature.

Motor dealers

A SURGE in new car sales has kept motor dealer shares on the boil throughout last year and news that sales had risen almost 12 per cent in 1993 added 6 per cent to the share price of market leader Lex Service. The market is expecting the outperformance to continue this year as competitive pricing from manufacturers tempts families back into the showrooms.

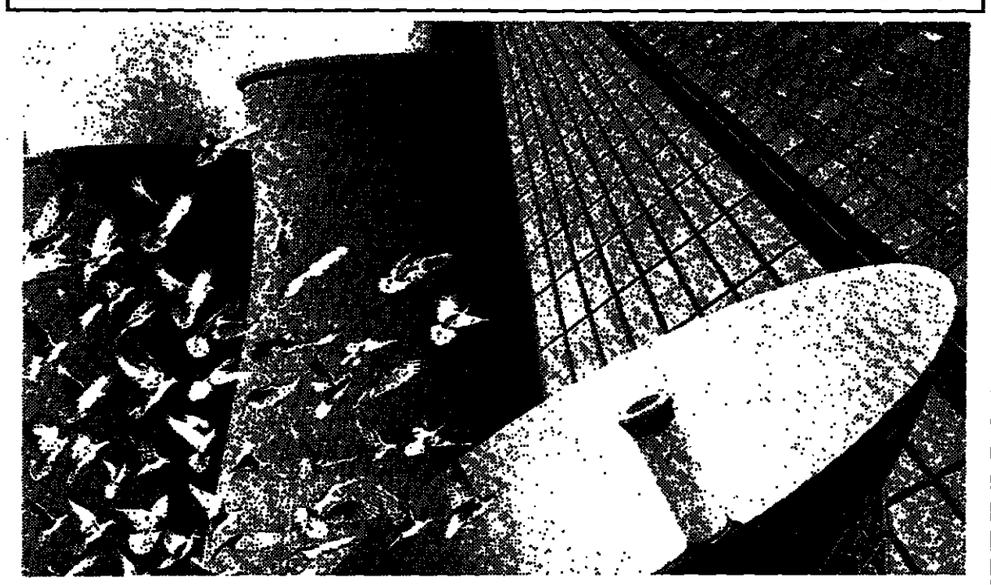
Consumers can still obtain cheap financing on budget models and the Society of Motor Manufacturers is forecasting a further volume rise from 1.8 million to 1.9 million registrations in 1994.

The good news in heavy truck sales, which increased by 16 per cent, is perhaps more suprising but explained in part as a recovery from a low base. Big trucks peaked in 1979 with sales of 77,000 and the last surge in 1989 hit 69,000.

Volume is only part of the story as dealers earn little on new cars and less on new trucks. Manufacturers have been squeezing their margins and offering bonuses as a carrot to encourage dealers to chase volume. Poor sales on the Continent are encouraging manufacturers to dump their product in Britain, exacerbating the drive for volume.

For the market leaders, Lex Service and T Cowie, consolidation would be the quickest way to improve their slim operating margins back to something like 3 per cent they earned in 1989. But even after its £50 million purchase of Arlington, Lex's market share is less than 4 per cent, leaving most of the rest of the sector a cottage industry. The motor industry cycle probably has another two years to run but it needs more than the forecast 5 per cent gains in volume to justify current ratings.

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This advertisement is not an offer. Applications should only be made on the basis of listing particulars relating to Mercury European Privatisation Trust plc.

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND
US $ .... 1.4930 (+0.0050)
German mark .... 2.5847 (-0.0046)
Exchange index .... 82.3 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET
FT-SE 100 .... 3446.0 (+43.0)
Dow Jones .... 3806.41 (+2.53)*
Nikkei Avg .... 18124.01 (+242.02)

INTEREST RATES
London Bank Base 5½%
3-month Interbank 5⅛-5⅟₁₆%
US Federal Funds *3%**
3-month Treas Bills 3.02-3.00%*
Long Bond 6.28%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£ $	1.4900*	£ $	1.4925
$ DM	1.7315*	£ DM	2.5813
$ SWfr	1.4708*	£ SWfr	2.1940
$ Ffr	5.8923*	£ Ffr	8.7855
$ Yen	111.95*	£ Yen	166.82
£ SDR	1.0833	£ ECU	1.3324

London Forex market close

GOLD
London Fixing ($)
AM 390.70 .... PM 390.50
Close 387.40-387.90
New York
Comex 388.15-388.65*

OIL
Brent Crude .... $14.30 per bbl (Feb)

RETAIL PRICES
RPI 141.6 Nov (1.4%) Jan 1987=100
* Denotes midday trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.30	2.10
Austria Sch	19.12	17.62
Belgium Fr	56.69	52.29
Canada $	2.066	1.905
Cyprus Cyp£	0.803	0.753
Denmark Kr	10.83	9.83
Finland Mkk	9.21	8.41
France Fr	9.22	8.52
Germany Dm	2.73	2.52
Greece Dr	392.50	367.50
Hong Kong $	12.11	11.11
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2607.00	2452.00
Japan Yen	181.50	164.50
Malta	0.623	0.568
Netherlds Gld	3.033	2.803
Norway Kr	11.69	10.89
Portugal Esc	273.00	254.50
S Africa Rd	5.85	4.95
Spain Pta	223.00	209.00
Sweden Kr	12.68	11.88
Switzerland Fr	2.33	2.15
Turkey Lira	22190.0	21190.0
USA $	1.580	1.450

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

STOCK MARKET

Tidal wave of cash lifts shares

THE London equity market was hit by a tidal wave of money, with investors scrambling for stock as prices began advancing again towards record highs.

The FT-SE 100 index recovered from a sluggish start to close near its best of the day with a rise of 43 points at 3,446.0. It was estimated that by the close of business a total of £11.1 billion had been added to share values. On Thursday, the equity market staged a 50-point turnround to end the day almost 24 points higher. The *rise on the week is 27.6 and the* index now stands just 16 points shy of its closing high.

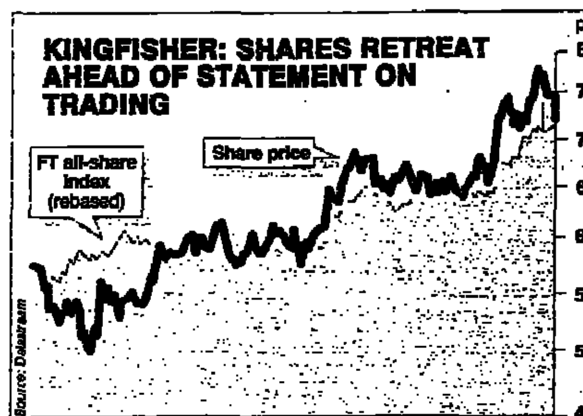
Dealers reported solid support across the board from both foreign and domestic institutions as hopes for another cut in interest rates were revived and fears receded that American rates are set to rise.

Much of this week's equity market revival have been fuelled by demand for second liners who look ripe for recovery. As the advance gathered pace yesterday, demand again spilled over into the top 100 shares. Utilities led the way, shaking off concern about increased regulatory interference. Among water companies there were gains for **North West**, 13p to 563p, **Northumbrian**, 21p to 725p, **Severn Trent**, 15p to 598p, **South West**, 24p to 634p, **Southern**, 7p to 646p, **Thames**, 16p to 575p, **Welsh**, 16p to 688p, **Wessex**, 14p to 718p and **Yorkshire**, 15p to 595p.



Sir Geoffrey: rundown

Electricity distribution companies recieved a helping hand from Warburg Securities, which upgraded its recommendation to clients. **East Midland** ended 16p higher at 648p, **Eastern**, 17p at 665p, **London**, 19p at 647p, **Manweb**, 14p at 755p, **Midlands**, 20p at 710p, **Northern**, 28p at 724p, **Norweb**, 20p at 743p, **Seeboard**, 19p at 747p, **South West**, 8p at 691p, **Southern**, 20p at 683p, and **Yorkshire**, 16p at 680p.



Media shares were wanted. **Anglia** added 17p at 472p, **Carlton Communications**, 10p at 968p, **Central Independent**, 29p at £29.93, **LWT (Holdings)**, 18p at 666p. Elsewhere, **Reuters** rose 41p to £18.64, and **Reed Elsevier** 11p to 905p.

Dixons rallied 4p to 244p after Thursday's profits warning, but **Kingfisher** dipped 18p to 729p. Chairman Sir *Geoffrey Mulcahy is expected* to give a rundown next week on trading covering the Christmas period. **Ladbroke**, the betting, hotels and property group, jumped 14p to 194p, boosted by a buy recommendation from Ron Littleboy at Nomura. The move also coincided with the news that Cyril Stein, the former chairman, is resigning as a non-executive director of the company. The share rise was good news for Kleinwort Benson, which earlier this week nominated Ladbroke as one of its shares of the year. Kleinwort has continued revealing its top-ten naps for 1994. On Thursday it was **The Telegraph**, up 6p at 508p, and **Willis Corroon**, 3p better at 243p. Yesterday it was the turn of **SmithKline Beecham**, which reversed an earlier fall to finish 1p firmer at 395p.

There was also some relief as SmithKline Beecham announced pricing details for Famvir, its competitor to Wellcome's Zovirax anti-herpes drug. *Fears of an anti*-herpes UK drug price war evaporated on news that Famvir will only be sold at a 5 per cent discount to Zovirax — well below previous estimates that had suggested a discount of as much as 25 per cent. **Wellcome** shares turned *round an earlier 16p deficit to* end 7p higher at 689p.

Shares of **Proteus**, the USM-quoted computer aided drug design group, surged 17p to 438p after announcing a joint venture with **Medeva**, 8p higher at 149p.

□ **GILT-EDGED:** Gilts enjoyed strong gains on the back of the latest US employment figures, with the March series of the long gilt surging almost £1 to £118¹³/₁₆ as 65,000 contracts were completed in longs. **Treasury 9 per cent 2012** jumped £²⁵/₃₂ to £126³/₈, while at the shorter end, **Treasury 9½ per cent 1999** was £⁵/₃₂ firmer at £115²³/₃₂.

MICHAEL CLARK

Hong Kong shares plunge on profit-taking

FROM REUTER IN HONG KONG

HONG KONG share prices plunged yesterday for the second, consecutive day as foreign investors quit the market in droves on profit-taking and worries about China's stability, brokers said.

After a day of wild fluctuation, the Hang Seng index fell more than six per cent before recovering some of the losses to close, down 373.02 points, or 3.28 per cent, at 11,001.48. In a dramatic reversal of last year's wild bull run, the index has fallen 1,166 points, or 9.6 per cent, in just two trading days.

Foreign investors, who have used Hong Kong as a gateway to the booming Chinese market and fuelled a 115 per cent surge on the Hang Seng index last year, are pulling out of markets around Asia.

Sentiment on Hong Kong and other east Asian markets shows signs of a U-turn, with money that had moved out of the badly performing Japanese market into the rest of the region apparently heading back. Nomura, the Japanese investment house, has advised clients to cut their holdings of Hong Kong shares, quit Kuala Lumpur and Manila altogether, and move the money to Tokyo.

Nick Knight, Nomura's London equity strategist, said: "It's not that I have any major worries about these economies. It's just that after strong gains, market valuations are beginning to look stretched." Sir Hamish Macleod, Hong Kong's financial secretary, expressed relief that the stock and futures markets were functioning well, in contrast to the 1987 global crash, when the former shut for four days and the latter collapsed.

Worries about China's "big bang", a series of currency and tax reforms, have added to the nervousness. Barry Yates, of Vickers Ballas, said investors were unsettled by Chinese reports on the need to avoid social unrest after the introduction of the reforms.

NEW YORK

NEW YORK — Wall Street shares remained slightly higher in early trading, but analysts said that they saw a very limited upside with little aggressive investment demand. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 2.53 points to 3,806.41. Advancing issues led declining shares ten to nine and US treasuries were sharply higher. Michael Metz, market strategist at Oppenheimer & Co, said: "Ironically, I think that 3,800 was the selling target for many portfolios rather than a buying signal." Analysts said that strength in the shares of Walt Disney and JP Morgan were keeping the Dow afloat (*Reuter*)

	Jan 7 midday	Jan 6 close
AMP Inc	62	62
AMR Corp	69	69
Abbott Labs	29	29
Aetna Life	56	56
Ahmanson (HF)	20	20
Air Prod & Chem	46	46
Albertson's	25	25
Alcan Aluminum	22	22
Alco Standard	56	56
Allied Signal	77	77
Alum Co of Am	72	71
Amax Gold Inc	7	7
Amerada Hess	47	48
Amer Brands	34	34
Amer Cyanamid	49	49
Amer El Power	36	36
Amer Express	29	29
Amer Genl Corp	28	28
Amer Home Pr	64	64
Amer Intl	85	84
Amer Stores	43	44
Amer T & T	54	53
Ameritech	73	73
Amoco	54	54
Anheuser-Busch	48	48
Apple Computer	31	32
Archer Daniels	24	24
Arkla	7	7
Armco	6	6
Armstrng Wrld	52	52
Asarco	24	23
Ashland Oil	36	36
Atl Richfield	107	108
Auto Data Pro	53	53
Avery Dennison	29	29
Avon Products	53	52
Baker Hughes	21½	21½
Baltim Gas & El	24	24
Banc One	37	37
BankAmerica	47	46
Bank of NY	57	57
Bankers Tr NY	78	77
Barnett Banks	42	42
Bausch & Lomb	50	50
Baxter Intl	24	24
Becton Dicknsn	35	34
Bell Atlantic	56	56
BellSouth	55	54
Black & Decker	19	19
Block (H&R)	41	40
Boeing	43	43
Boise Cascade	25	25
Borden Inc	15	15
Bristol Myrs Sq	58	59
Browning Ferris	27	27
Brunswick	19	20
Burlington Nthn	58	58
CBS	280	284
CNA Financial	75	75
CPC Intl	48	47
CSX	85	86
Campbell Soup	40	40
Can Pacific	17	17
Cptl Cities ABC	617	614
Cptl Holdings	35	36
Carolina Pwr	29	29
Caterpillar	90	91½
Central & SW	29	29
Champion Intl	34	33
Chase Manhat	33	33
Chemical Bk	39	39
Chevron Corp	90	90
Chrysler	56	56
Chubb Corp	76	75
Cigna Corp	63	63
Citicorp	37	36
Clorox	54	54
Coastal Corp	27	28
Coca Cola	42	42
Colgate-Palmolive	59	59
Columbia Gas	22	21½
Commonw Ed	27	27
Compaq Comp	76	77
Comp Ass Intl	42	42
Conagra	26	26
Cons Edison	31	30
Cons Nat Gas	45	45
Cons Rail	67	67
Cooper Inds	49	49
Corning Inc	30	28
Crown Cork	38	41
Dana Corp	58	58
Dayton Hudson	67	68
Deere	73	73
Delta Air Lines	55	55
Deluxe Corp	36	36
Detroit Edison	28	28
Digital Equip	36	36
Dillard Dept St	37	36
Disney (Walt)	46	45
Dominion Res	44	44
Donelley (RR)	30	30
Dover Corp	59	59
Dow Chemical	58	59
Dow Jones	37	37
Dresser	21	21
Duke Power	41	41
Dun & Bradstreet	61	61
Du Pont	51½	52
Eastman Kodak	46	46
Eaton Corp	51½	50
Emerson Elec	60	59
Engelhard Corp	25	25
Enron Corp	29	30
Ethyl Corp	17	17
Exxon	64	64
FMC Corp	47	47
FPL Group	37	37
Federal Express	73	72
Fed Nat Mtge	81	79
First Chicago	41	41
First Interstate	65	64
First Union Rlty	10	10
Fleet Finl Grp	34	33
Fluor Corp	41	41½
Ford Motor	64	63
GTE Corp	34	34
Gannett	57	57
Gap Inc Del	40	41
Gen Dynamics	90	91½
Gen Electric	104	103
Gen Mills	60	60
Gen Motors	57	57
Gen Reinsurance	104	102
Gen Signal	35	35
Genuine Parts	37	37
Georgia Pac	72	72
Gillette	58	58
Glaxo ADR	19	19
Goodrich (BF)	40	39
Goodyear Tire	46	46
Grace (W&R)	41	41
Grt Atl Pac Tea	25	25
Great Wstn Fin	20	20
Halliburton	33	32
Harcourt General	34	34
Heinz (HJ)	35	35
Hercules	109	109
Hershey Foods	48	47
Hewlett Packard	81	81
Hilton Hotels	59	59
Home Depot	38	38
Homestake Mng	23	24
Honeywell	32	32
Household Intl	32	32
Houston Inds	45	45
Humana	17	16
ITT Corp	90	92
Illinois Tool	38	37
INCO	27	27
Ingersoll Rand	40	39
Inland Steel	35	35
Intgr Corp	63	64
IBM	59	58
Intl Flav & Fr	114	113
Intl Paper	72	71½
James River Va	19	19
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	43	44
K Mart	20	19
Kellogg	57	57
Kerr-McGee	47	48
Kimberly-Clark	53	52
Knight-Ridder	59	59
Lilly (Eli)	58	58
Limited Inc	18	17
LIN Brdcstng	108	110
Lincoln Nat	41½	42
Litton	67	66
Liz Claiborne	22	22
Lockheed Corp	66	66
Louisiana Pac	43	42
MCI Commun	27	28
Marriott Inc	28	28
Marsh & McLen	82	81
Masco Corp	36	36
May Dept St	38	38
Maytag Corp	17	18
McCaw Cellular	52	51
McDonalds	56½	55
McDonnell D	106	106
McGraw Hill	69	68
Mead Corp	46	45
Medtronic	82	82
Mellon Bk	53	53
Melville Corp	38	39
Merck Inc	36	36
Merrill Lynch	41½	40
Minnesota Mine	108	107
Mobil Corp	79	79
Monsanto	74	75
Morgan (JP)	68	67
Motorola Inc	88	89
Natl Medical	14	14
Natl Semi	17	17
Natl Service Ind	26	26
Navistar Int	24	25
NBD Bancorp	29	29
NY Times A	29	27
Newmont Mng	58	59
Niag Mohawk	20	19
Nike B	49	48
NL Industries	5	4
Nordstrom	32	32
Norfolk Sthrn	71	71
Nthn State Pwr	42	42
Norwest Corp	23	23
Nynex Corp	39	39
Occidental Pet	17	18
Ohio Edison	22	23
Oracle Systems	32	32
Oryx Energy Co	18	18
Owens Corning	44	43
PNC Financial	29	29
PPG Industries	76	76
Paccar Inc	57	55
Pacificorp	19	19
Pac Enterprises	24	24
Pac Gas & Elect	32	32
Pac Telesis	53	59
Pall Corp	19	19
Panhandle East	22	22
Paramt Comm	79	79
Parker Hannifin	38	38
Penney (JC)	52	51
Pennzoil	54	54
Pepsico	39	39
Pfizer	68	68
Phelps Dodge	49	50
Philadel Elec	29	29
Philip Morris	58	58
Phillips Pet	30	30
Pitney Bowes	40	40
Polaroid	35	34
PriceCostco	18	18
Procter & Gmbl	55	56
Pub Serv E & G	30	30
Quaker Oats	69	69
Ralston Purina	37	37
Raychem Corp	36	37
Raytheon	64	64
Reebok Intl	31	31
Reynolds Metals	47	47
Roadway Srvs	63	63
Rockwell Intl	37	37
Rohm & Haas	59	59
Royal Dutch	108	107
Rubbermaid	34	34
Safeco Corp	52	53
St Paul's Cos	87	86
Salomon Inc	47	46
Santa Fe Pac	23	22
Sara Lee Corp	25	24
Seecorp	30	30
Schering Plough	68	68
Schlumberger	60	59
Scott Paper	41	41
Seagram	27	27
Sears Roebuck	52	53
Shell Trans	66	66
Sherwin Wlms	34	33
Skyline Corp	22	21½
Snap-On-Tools	40	40
Southern Co	42	43
Sthwestern Bell	38	38
Sprint Corp	32	32
Stanley Works	42	43
Sun Company	30	31
Sun Microsys	29	29
Suntrust	45	45
Supervalu	37	37
Syntex Corp	15	15
Sysco Corp	28	28
TRW Inc	69	69
Tandem Comp	11	11
Tandy Corp	45	46
Telecom Corp	3	3
Teledyne	26	25
Temple Inland	53	54
Tenneco	53	53
Texaco	65	65
Texas Instr	67	67
Texas Utilities	39	40
Textron	59	58
Time Warner	40	40
Times-Mirror	36	35
Timken	35	35
Torchmark	45	45
Toys R Us	37	37
Transamerica	55	55
Travelers	40	39
Tribune	61	60
Tyco Labs	48	48
UAL Corp	146	146
UST Inc	28	28
USX Marathon	17	17
Unilever NV	116	116
Union Camp	49	49
Union Carbide	22	22
Union Pacific	66	66
Unisys Corp	12	12
USAIR Group	13	13
USF&G Corp	14	13
US Life	37	37
US West	43	43
United Tech	62	61
Unocal Corp	29	29
Upjohn	29	28
VF Corp	45	45
WMX Tech	29	28
Wal-Mart Stores	24	24
Warner-Lambert	67	67
Wells Fargo	130	122
Westinghouse El	13	13
Weyerhaeuser	46	47
Whirlpool	65	64
Whitman	16	16
Wmn Dixie	50	50
Woolworth	24	24
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	43	44
Xerox	90	90

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
HSBC .... 920p (+15p)
Fairey Group .... 714p (+26p)
SG Warburg .... 963p (+29p)
Bass .... 588p (+18p)
RMC Group .... 991p (+34p)
Courtauld Text .... 500p (+18p)
Unitech .... 271p (+15p)
Delta .... 511p (+17p)
ICI .... 800p (+23p)
Diploma .... 585p (+33p)
Nobo Group .... 239p (+22p)
Zeneca .... 863p (+15p)

FALLS:
Glaxo .... 664p (-15p)
Jardine Math .... 622p (-11p)
Kingfisher .... 729p (-18p)
Eurotunnel Uts .... 636p (-18p)

Closing Prices Page 29

RECENT ISSUES

Aberforth Split Lvl C (100)	100½	...
Abtrust Lloyds Insce (100)	96	+1
CLM Insce (100)	*107*	...
Chelsfield (155)	184	+2
DFS Furniture (260)	320	...
Fairbairn Euro Smlr (100)	98	...
Finsbury Undrwrtng Inv	110½	+½
For & Col Smaller (100)	115½	+1
Friends Prov Ethical (60)	59	...
Friends Prov Uts (120)	122	...
Friends Prov Zero Pf (60)	62¾	-¼
Gartmore (168)	201	...
Govett Emerging C	*115*	*-2*
Govett High Inc (100)	112	+1
Harmony Leisure Wrts	4	...
Inspirations (100)	106	...
Kleinwort 2nd Endw (50)	51½	...
Litho Supplies (190)	239	+2
London Industrial (320)	355	...
Masthead Insce (100)	108	...
Mercury World Mng (100)	117	+2
Morgan Gren Eqty C (100)	110	+1
NM Smllr Aust (100)	*109*	*+3*
NM Smllr Wrts	54	+1
Nelson Hurst (140)	154	-1
New London Capital (100)	99	...
On Demand Info (78)	117	-1
Pilot Inv C (100)	104	...
Rackwood (40)	46	...
Rossmont (10)	11	...
Securitised End Cont (60)	62	+1

RIGHTS ISSUES

Anglo Irish n/p (48)	12	+1
Bemrose n/p (325)	103	+5
Bourne End n/p (65)	6	...
Hillclare n/p (36)	2½	...
Sheldon Jones n/p (25)	8	...
Wyevale Garden n/p (152)	19	...

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 071 538 8800				
Balanced	453.30	479.70	+2.10	...
UK Equity	583.30	617.30	+4.70	...
Property	423.60	448.30	-1.30	...
Fixed Interest	336.80	356.50	-0.40	
Money	244.20	258.50	-0.20	...
International	350.10	370.50	+2.10	...
AETNA LIFE INSURANCE 2-12 Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD 0800 010575				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	17.54	18.47	+0.01	
Bear	20.24	21.31	-0.03	...
Owl	20.63	21.72	+0.13	
Bull	18.72	19.71	+0.22	
Stag	19.61	20.65	+0.27	...
Gilt Edged	19.71	19.71	-0.14	...
Deposit	15.43	15.43	+0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	23.51	24.75	+0.02	
Bear	27.47	28.92	-0.03	
Owl	28.02	29.50	+0.20	...
Bull	24.10	25.37	+0.32	
Stag	24.52	25.82	+0.39	
Gilt Edged	24.36	24.36	-0.16	
Deposit	19.68	19.68	+0.02	
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	590.78	590.79	+0.32	
1982 Series				
UK Equity	354.80	373.48	+0.70	
N Amer Equity	296.08	311.67	+0.05	
Far East Equity	446.84	470.36	+14.00	
Fixed	308.99	325.26	-2.27	
Cash Deposit	199.02	209.50	+0.16	
Property	143.98	151.56	-3.24	
Special Opp	361.54	380.57	+6.26	
Managed	316.95	333.64	+2.20	
Index-Linked Fd	199.60	210.11	-2.32	
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	267.00	281.10		
-do- Acc	487.60	513.30	-0.10	
Equity Fd Inc	181.30	190.70	+1.90	
-do- Acc	235.10	247.50	+2.50	
Selective Fd	496.70	522.90	-1.80	
Money Fd	365.70	385.00	-0.40	
Prop Fd Ser 4	379.70	399.70	-0.10	
Equity Ser 4	222.30	234.00	+1.90	
Man Ser 4	686.80	723.00	+3.80	
Conv Ser 4	319.70	336.60	+0.30	
Money Ser 4	319.40	336.30	+0.40	
Fixed Int Ser 4	361.00	380.10	-2.90	
American Ser 4	517.60	544.90	-6.30	
High Inc Ser 4	*687.30*	*723.50*	*+8.90*	
Indexed Inv Ser 4	219.80	231.40	-3.10	
Japan Ser 4	336.30	354.00	+5.60	
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	1604.9	1691.4	+1.30	
European Fd Acc	367.10	386.40	+1.90	
Fixed Int Acc	559.00	588.40	-7.60	
Gtd Money Acc	324.70	341.70	-0.20	
Intl Managed Acc	600.10	631.60	-1.20	
Int Fxd Int Acc	333.50	351.00	-2.20	
Japan Fund	274.10	288.50	+6.80	
N American Acc	327.90	345.10	-2.40	
Prop Fd Acc	402.20	423.30	-0.40	
Multiple Inv Acc	1072.1	1128.5	-0.30	
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	361.50	380.60	-0.20	...
Equity Acc	1458.1	1534.9	-12.10	
Property Acc	515.80	543.00	+0.40	
Far East Acc	351.10	369.60	-9.60	
Managed Capital	556.80	588.30	-1.50	
-do- Acc	1124.6	1183.8	-5.40	
Overseas Acc	980.70	1032.4	+22.10	
Gilt Edged Acc	500.70	527.10	-7.50	
Amer Equity Acc	754.40	794.20	+2.70	...
Amer Man Acc	321.50	338.50	-0.30	
Amer Prop Acc	115.30	121.20	-0.90	
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 0494 463463				
Reserve Ser 5	149.30	157.10	-0.40	...
Balced Ser 5	713.70	751.20	+0.70	...
Opportunity Ser 5	164.40	173.00	+1.40	...
Distribution Ser 5	109.70	115.40		
UK Equities Ser 5	995.10	1047.4	+2.70	
Higher Inc Ser 5	1074.8	1131.3	+10.40	
North Amer Ser 5	439.20	462.30	+0.10	
Far East Ser 5	562.60	592.20	-11.90	
Europe Ser 5	364.20	383.30	+0.20	
Intnl Ser 5	563.40	593.00	-3.40	
Property Ser 5	523.00	550.50	-2.50	
Fixed Int Ser 5	425.70	448.10	-6.50	
Ind-Lnkd Sec S5	*188.10*	*197.90*	*-2.60*	
Gteed Dep Ser 5	288.20	303.30		
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 081 534 5544				
Equity Acc	860.00	905.30	+1.90	...
-do- Initial	586.70	617.60	+1.30	...
Gilt Edged Acc	404.40	425.70	-3.60	
-do- Initial	278.20	292.90	-2.50	...
International Acc	410.70	432.40	+1.90	...
-do- Initial	280.90	295.70	+1.40	...
Managed Acc	533.60	561.70	+0.70	...
-do- Initial	366.10	385.40	+0.50	...
Money Acc	282.90	297.90	+0.20	...
Property Acc	280.00	294.80		
-do- Initial	190.70	200.80	-0.10	...
America Acc	290.40	305.70	-0.80	
Australia Acc	226.10	238.00	+4.70	...
Financial Acc	342.70	360.80	-0.40	...
500 Accum	447.20	470.90	+6.50	
Japan Genl Acc	329.90	347.30	+5.60	
Income Acc	536.20	564.50	+6.50	
Leisure Acc	233.40	245.70	+3.70	...
Special Sits Acc	240.50	253.20	+3.30	...
Univ Tech Acc	158.20	166.60	-0.30	
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834080				
The Managed Fd	820.72	820.72	+1.95	...
Income Fund	779.51	820.54	+5.92	...
Extra Income	711.89	749.36	+6.13	...
Worldwide Gth	531.77	559.76	-12.06	
Balanced Fund	679.59	715.68	+3.01	
Smllr Cos Recov	663.36	698.28	+12.12	
N Amer & Genrl	383.64	403.84	+2.55	...
Pacific Basin	534.48	562.62	+17.11	
German Growth	233.99	245.89	-0.30	
Japan Growth	165.86	174.59	+5.27	
The UK Gth Fd	214.15	225.43	+0.88	
Contl Euro Gth	129.94	136.78	-0.24	...
Property Fund	374.10	393.79	+2.49	
Fixed Interest	329.71	347.07	-3.75	...
Cash Fund	275.48	289.98	+0.14	...
Managed Inv	498.05	524.27	+1.11	...
Nth Amer Recov	252.97	266.29	+5.10	
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	500.70	527.06	-11.24	...
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire 0475 888000				
Measured Perf	169.30	178.00	-2.20	
Performance Plus	164.70	174.20	+3.60	
With Profit Perf	165.70	175.30	+0.10	
UK Opportunity	197.40	198.30	+2.60	
Euro Opportunity	218.80	231.50	+7.20	
North Amer Opp	168.50	178.30	+5.00	...
Far East Opp	217.80	230.40	+0.30	
Gwth Prop Ser 1	140.60	148.00		...
Gth Prop Ser 2	166.70	176.40		
Fixed Int	197.70	209.20	-0.70	
Cash	152.30	161.10	-0.10	
Overseas	199.70	200.70	-4.10	
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 51122				
Equity Growth	236.10			
Managed	330.40	347.90	+0.40	
Property	222.10	233.80		
Gilt & Fxd Int	253.70	272.30	-3.00	
Equity	356.90	376.30	-1.80	
Cash	212.10	223.30		
CLife Euro Mgd	373.40	393.10	-0.20	
CLife Intl Fd	357.20	376.10	-1.00	
For Cannon see Lincoln National				
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101				
Property Fund	191.20	190.80		
Managed Fund	631.70	665.00	+2.00	
Equity Fund	359.70	378.70	+1.20	
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	292.40	307.80	+0.80	
Ruby	165.00	174.40	+1.20	
Emerald	148.50	156.40	-1.50	
Equity	336.70	354.50	+2.80	
Property	198.00	208.50	+1.50	
Gilt & Fixed Int	221.40	233.10	-2.90	
Indexed Secs	174.90	184.20	-2.80	
Cash	182.00	191.60	+0.10	
Nth American	215.50	226.90	-1.10	
Far East	348.90	367.20	-13.10	
International	231.60	243.80		
Special Sits	323.60	340.70	+7.90	
Intl Income	299.90	315.60	+2.50	
American Inc	192.60	202.80	-0.70	
European	305.10	321.20	+2.60	
Japanese	126.90	133.60	-3.20	
SE Asia	405.20	426.60	-19.70	
With Profits Rec	154.40	162.60	+0.30	
-do- Spec	154.40	162.60	+0.20	
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	321.40	341.50	-0.10	
Equity	390.80	411.40	+1.10	
Property	186.50	196.40	+1.30	
Gilt & Fixed Int	271.70	286.00	-3.70	
Index Linked	186.10	195.90	-3.40	
Cash	240.60	253.30	+0.30	
Nth American	263.50	277.40	-2.70	
Far East Acc	307.20	323.40	-1.20	
International Acc	297.10	312.80	-3.10	
Special Sits	463.80	488.30	+11.00	
European Flex	426.00	448.50	+6.10	
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 0634 890 000				
(Units) Key	1224.18			
-do- Pacemaker	1511.66			
-do- Cash	199.90	209.37	-0.06	
-do- Equity	551.07	580.07	-0.04	
-do- Fxd Int	385.93	406.24	-4.15	
-do- Managed	398.16	419.12	-0.42	
-do- Property	352.63	371.19	+0.97	
(Pens) Cash Cap	207.02	217.93	+0.03	
-do- Cash Inv	293.55	309.01	+0.25	
-do- Equity Cap	1508.5	1587.9	-9.91	
-do- Equity Inv	2139.0	2251.5	-12.54	
-do- Fixed Cap	422.39	444.63	-5.05	
-do- Fixed Inv	598.93	630.47	-6.71	
-do- Index Cap	219.81	231.39	-2.27	
-do- Index Inv	311.68	328.10	-3.00	
Mngd Cap	595.78	627.15	-4.61	
Mngd Inv	844.79	889.26	-5.94	
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	1729.28			
Var Ann (5)	495.34			
Prime: Managed	417.30	439.30	+5.10	
Prime: UK Equity	504.30	530.80	+10.30	
Prime: Int Equity	317.80	334.60	+1.80	
Prime: Property	211.60	222.80	+1.90	
Prime Fxd Int	256.00	269.50	-3.40	
Prime Index-Lnk	184.00	193.70	-3.60	
Prime: Cash	199.60	210.20	+0.10	
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744840				
Managed Fund	1143.3	1203.4	...	
Equity Fund	1665.8	1753.4	...	...
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 0483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	605.30	637.10	-0.70	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	385.00	405.20	-2.10	...
Life Equity Acc	839.70	883.80	-1.30	...
Life Money Acc	293.30	308.70	...	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	870.50	916.30	+0.60	...
Life Intl Acc	503.70	530.20	+1.00	...
Life High Inc Acc	809.80	852.40	-1.60	...
Life Property Acc	256.50	270.00	+0.30	...
Crown Brit Inv A	1389.9	...	+104.70	...
Brewin Equity	715.10	752.70	-6.60	...
Life Equity Acc	234.00	246.30		...
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311				
Secure Fund	170.40	179.40	-0.10	...
Blue Chip Fund	247.10	260.20	+1.90	...
-do- Series 2	159.70	168.20	-1.30	...
Adventurous Fd	216.80	228.30	-3.50	...
-do- Series 2	164.00	172.70	-2.60	...
Performance Fd	250.80	264.10	-1.50	...
-do- Series 2	163.40	172.10	-1.00	...
UK Prof Fxd Int	151.10	159.10	-1.00	...
UK Equity Fund	163.60	172.30	+2.00	...
Property Fund	108.40	114.20	+0.10	...
Envrnmntl Opps	160.70	169.20	+1.90	...
Euro Fund	177.80	187.20	+1.80	...
North Amer Fd	197.60	208.00	-0.30	...
Oriental Ops	258.00	271.60	-1.60	...
Japanese Fund	119.30	125.50	+2.20	...
Bd & West Life	118.50	124.80	+0.10	...
Bd & West Pen	130.90	137.80	-0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 071 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	280.50	298.70	-2.90	3.15
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 0722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	314.00	330.60	-1.50	
UK Equity	421.50	443.70	-2.00	...
Stewardship	355.30	374.00	+0.90	...
Overseas Equity	282.30	297.20	-1.00	...
North American	153.10	161.20	+0.10	...
Pacific Basin	168.40	177.30	-2.60	...
European	201.40	212.00	+0.10	...
Property	198.20	208.70	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	247.30	260.40	-2.10	...
Index Linked	174.30	183.50	-3.10	...
Cash	194.60	204.90	+0.10	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 071 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	354.30	373.00	+2.80	...
GT Plan Wwide	*551.40*	*580.50*	*+16.00*	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982				
Managed	212.50	223.60	+0.76	
Unitised Profit	127.70	134.30	+0.20	
UK Equity	288.00	303.10	+2.50	
Fixed Int	209.80	220.70	-3.40	
Index-Linked	174.90	184.00	-4.20	
Cash Deposit	170.70	178.80	+0.10	
Property	173.60	182.60	+0.10	
International	195.50	205.70	+0.30	
American	159.40	167.70	-0.40	
Japan	231.70	243.80	+3.90	
Japan Smllr Cos	237.20	249.60	+4.00	
European	182.70	192.20	+1.30	
Pacific Fund	*322.60*	*339.40*	*-4.00*	
Conv Life	142.50	149.90	+1.00	
GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE Gen Portfolio House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	727.70	727.70	-1.80	
-do- Inv A	727.60	766.00	-1.80	
UK Equity	414.90	436.90	+1.80	
Gth Plus	220.40	232.20	-1.40	
Managed	319.50	336.40	-0.80	
Inter Man	284.10	299.10	-1.20	
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 071 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	722.70	752.80	...	...
Managed Initial	498.00	524.20	+2.10	...
-do- Acc	695.80	732.40	+3.30	...
Equity Initial	729.70	768.10	+5.20	...
-do- Acc	1019.4	1073.0	+7.70	...
Fixed Int Initial	478.20	503.30	-4.70	...
-do- Acc	668.00	703.20	-6.30	...
Intl Initial	477.40	502.60	-0.80	...
-do- Acc	667.00	702.10	-0.90	...
Nth Amer Initial	184.70	194.40	-3.40	...
-do- Acc	234.50	247.20	-4.20	...
Pacific Initial	251.20	264.40	-6.10	...
-do- Acc	316.40	333.00	-7.60	...
Property Initial	164.20	172.90		
-do- Acc	229.30	241.40		
Index-Lnkd Initl	171.90	180.90	-2.20	...
-do- Acc	218.50	230.00	-2.70	...
Deposit Initial	195.30	205.50		
-do- Acc	272.80	287.10	+0.10	...
Euro Initial	101.60	107.00	+0.50	...
-do- Acc	119.40	125.70	+0.60	...
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 200939				
Managed	170.40	179.30	+0.20	
-do- Pens	210.10	221.10		
UK Equity	170.80	179.70	+0.80	
-do- Pens	194.90	205.10	+0.60	...
International	147.70	155.40	-0.10	...
-do- Pens	160.40	168.80	+0.10	...
Deposit	136.80	143.90	+0.10	...
-do- Pens	160.10	168.50	+0.10	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 071 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	386.40	411.10	+1.70	...
North America	358.80	381.80	+0.70	...
Far East Fund	717.90	763.80	-2.10	...
Global Managed	496.30	528.00	+0.20	...
Deposit Fund	223.60	235.40	+0.20	...
Prime Residential	126.00	132.70		
European Fund	262.20	279.00	+2.10	
Fixed Interest	71.00	75.60	-0.40	
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
Security Fund	525.10	555.70	+5.10	
British Fund	544.10	575.80	+7.30	...
International	528.70	559.50	+2.00	...
Dollar Fund	372.90	394.70	+2.30	...
Capital Fund	481.40	509.50	+2.80	...
Income Fund	729.80	772.30	+7.50	...
Property Series A	428.20	453.20	-1.10	5.30
Property Units	700.10	735.20	+1.60	...
Financial Fund	611.10	646.70	-2.30	...
Managed Ser A	558.20	590.70	+3.30	...
Managed Units	999.30	1051.9	+6.10	...
High Yield Fund	698.80	739.50	+11.00	...
Money Series A	280.00	296.30	+0.20	...
Money Units	369.90	389.40	-0.20	...
Equity Fund	635.20	672.20	+4.40	...
Fixed Interest	402.00	425.40	-3.40	...
Indexed Secs	194.10	205.40	-2.60	...
European Fund	737.50	780.50	-2.70	...
Natural Res	317.30	335.80	-17.10	...
Far East Fund	654.80	693.00	+8.90	...
Smaller Cos	495.80	524.70	-7.00	...
Special Sits	457.00	483.60	+7.40	...
Man Currency	255.90	270.80	-0.50	...
Japanese Tech	241.90	256.00	+6.40	...
US Smaller Cos	217.70	230.40	+2.10	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 0727 48181				
Global Managed	571.90	602.00	+8.10	...
Global Property	279.00	293.70	+16.50	...
Global Fixed Int	546.20	574.90	-0.80	...
Global Equity	609.50	641.60	+8.40	...
Global Cash	207.50	218.40	+0.30	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 0452 371371				
Gtd Mgd	513.00	540.00	-3.30	
Property	459.90	483.90	-2.90	
Managed	428.30	451.40	-2.60	
American	409.70	431.20	+5.70	
UK Equity Fd	466.90	491.40	+4.00	
Japan	200.30	210.80	+4.10	
Index-Lkd	191.00	201.20	-2.10	
High Yield	883.50	929.90	-13.90	
Growth Cap	463.60	488.00	-3.80	
Money	391.70	412.30	-0.30	
International	397.60	418.50	+3.00	
Henderson Active	226.80	238.70	+2.10	
Perpetual Active	335.50	353.10	+1.60	
Growth Cap	463.60	488.00	-3.80	
-do- Acc	670.10	705.30	+5.00	
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 0273 824000				
E Stoc Lnkd Init	135.10	142.30	...	
-do- Acc	181.10	190.70	+0.10	
Brit Opps Init	147.40	155.20	+2.10	
-do- Acc	178.00	187.40	+3.00	
Cash Initial	167.00	175.80	-0.50	
-do- Acc	279.70	294.50		
Equity Initial	693.50	730.00	+3.30	
-do- Acc	1161.2	1222.4	+8.60	
Fixed Initial	379.80	399.80	-5.60	
-do- Acc	636.00	669.50	-7.80	
Index-Lnkd Gilt Init	144.90	152.60	-3.10	
-do- Acc	207.10	218.00	-3.80	
Intl Initial	366.90	386.30	+4.30	
-do- Acc	604.90	636.80	+8.50	
Managed Initial	509.50	536.40	+8.90	
-do- Acc	853.20	898.20	+17.10	
Property Initial	202.30	213.00	-0.40	
-do- Acc	338.80	356.70	+0.10	
LIFE ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND 113 Dundas Street, Edinburgh EH3 5EB 031 550 5000				
Managed Fund	365.70	385.90	-0.70	...
UK Equity	599.30	630.90	-0.50	...
Property	295.90	311.10		
Money Market	245.80	258.80	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	342.50	360.60	-6.10	...
Japan	373.10	392.80	+7.40	
North America	160.90	169.30	-0.90	...
International	311.20	327.60	-2.00	...
European	281.00	295.60	+3.20	...
Far East	140.20	147.60	-3.10	...
LINCOLN NATIONAL 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081 902 8876				
Equity Units	[illegible]	...	+1.68	
Property Units	[illegible]		-0.11	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	157.65	171.21	+0.79	
2nd Equity Acc	663.50	698.40	+7.40	
2nd High Inc Acc	634.80	668.30	+9.40	
2nd Property Acc	244.00	256.80	+0.90	
2nd Mgd 2 Acc	165.40	178.90	-0.40	
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	487.70	513.30	+5.20	
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	241.60	254.40	+2.80	
2nd Deposit Acc	273.20	287.50	+0.10	
2nd Gilt Acc	324.70	341.80	-3.10	
2nd Amer Acc	707.30	744.70	+6.80	
2nd Intl Mngd Acc	257.50	271.10	-0.50	
2nd Index Acc	214.90	226.20	-3.00	
2nd Far East Acc	474.80	499.70	+7.10	
2nd Global Acc	191.70	197.60	-0.80	
2nd Euro Acc	155.90	173.60	-2.80	
2nd Japan Acc	195.40	205.70	+4.50	
2nd Heritage Acc	70.00	73.70	-1.70	
2nd Intl Cr Bd Acc	161.40	169.90	-0.60	
2nd Cap Gth Acc	133.20	140.20	+1.70	
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA 0272 279179				
Equity	736.40	...	+0.80	...
Fixed Interest	435.50	...	-4.10	...
Property	294.60	...	+8.90	...
Deposit	283.50	...	+0.10	...
Mixed	563.00	...	-0.70	...
Indexed Stock	223.70	...	-2.50	...
International	259.10	...		
Equity A	217.50	...	+0.30	...
Fixed Int A	193.50	...	-1.90	...
Property A	160.50	...	+3.80	...
Deposit A	166.90	...	+0.10	...
Mixed A	198.50	...	+0.20	...
Index Stock A	175.40	...	-2.00	...
International A	180.90	...	...	...
Equity P	787.80	...	+0.30	...
Fixed Int P	565.80	...	-5.00	...
Property P	294.40	...	+0.80	...
Deposit P	330.50	...	+0.20	...
Mixed P	562.20	...	-0.10	...
Index Stock P	254.40	...	-2.90	...
International P	337.10	...	...	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282456				
Inv Trust Cap	660.90	...	+2.70	...
-do- Acc	1062.0	...	+5.10	...
Property Cap	146.30	...	+1.20	...
-do- Acc	227.00	...	+2.10	...
Fxd Interest Cap	221.30	...	-3.60	...
-do- Acc	344.90	...	-3.70	...
Equity Cap	340.30	...	-0.90	...
-do- Acc	536.80	...	-1.10	...
Internatl Cap	248.90	...	+0.90	...
-do- Acc	388.90	...	+1.70	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	168.40	...		
-do- Acc	259.50	...	+0.10	...
Flexible Cap	367.90	...	-0.70	...
-do- Acc	578.70	...	-0.60	...
Moneymaker Fd	1453.40	...	-1.00	...
Capital Growth	1718.5	...	-1.30	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 0245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	421.00	442.20	+0.40	...
Amer Rec Bond	485.30	509.70	+8.40	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	240.10	252.20	+1.00	...
Australasia Bd	243.70	256.00	+3.50	...
Commodity Bond	319.40	335.40	-8.20	...
Deposit Bond Acc	352.10	369.80	+0.30	...
Equity Bond Acc	1507.8	1583.3	+18.90	...
European Bd Acc	*371.60*	*390.30*	*+3.27*	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	757.80	795.80	+9.60	...
Far East Bd Acc	348.60	366.10	-7.40	...
Gilt Bond Acc	487.10	511.60	-7.20	...
Gold Bond Acc	189.40	198.80	-11.00	...
High Yield Bond	364.90	383.30	+6.30	...
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	225.70	237.00	-3.00	...
International Bd	758.80	796.80	+5.60	...
Japan Bond Acc	254.20	267.10	+4.90	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	243.10	255.30	+3.30	...
Managed Bonds	903.60	948.90	+8.40	...
Prop Bond Acc	360.70	378.80	-0.30	...
Rec Bond Acc	755.70	793.60	+16.80	...
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631				
UK Equity	240.90	253.20	...	...
UK Equity Acc	328.60	345.90	+0.30	...
Special Sits	96.90	102.00	+1.40	...
Special Sits Acc	132.50	139.50	+2.30	...
North American	186.70	196.60	+0.30	...
N American Acc	255.20	268.70	+0.70	...
Pacific Basin	396.00	416.90	-8.70	...
Pacific Basin Acc	541.20	569.70	-11.60	...
Fixed Interest	313.60	330.20	-2.60	...
Fixed Interest Acc	429.10	451.70	-3.30	...
Property	162.60	171.20	+0.10	...
Property Acc	222.50	234.30	+0.30	...
Deposit	152.00	160.00	...	...
Deposit Acc	208.40	219.40	+0.10	...
Managed	274.60	289.10	-0.40	...
Managed Acc	345.90	364.20	-0.30	...
MANULIFE GROUP St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts 0438 356101				
Managed Fund	722.50	760.50	...	...
Property Fund	481.90	507.30	...	...
Equity Fund	931.70	980.70	...	...
Gilt Edged Fd	660.10	694.80	...	...
Deposit Fund	321.20	338.10	...	...
Investment Fd	395.50	415.30	...	...
International	552.30	581.40	...	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead, Bristol BS1 2NH 0272 266 366				
Property	430.90	453.50	+0.20	...
UK Equity	356.40	375.10	-2.30	...
Gilt Edged	643.40	677.60	-5.80	...
Interest Fund	371.50	391.00	+1.00	...
UK Fund	514.60	541.60	-0.40	...
Intl Equity	645.00	678.90	-4.10	...
Intl Managed	597.70	629.10	-4.10	...
North American	218.30	229.70	+0.20	...
Far East	521.90	549.30	+6.90	...
Intl Currency	268.50	282.60	-0.50	...
NM LIFE ASSURANCE Enterprise House, Portsmouth 0705 827733				
Equity	149.30	157.10	-1.30	...
Fixed Interest	565.20	594.90	-7.90	...
Managed	713.00	750.50	-5.80	...
Deposit	330.40	347.70	+0.10	...
Property	406.20	427.50	+0.40	...
American	413.80	435.50	-2.00	...
Australian	536.30	564.40	+12.80	...
European	529.20	557.00	+1.00	...
Global Managed	...	...	...	...
Income Acc	798.40	840.40	-4.30	...
-do- Dist	509.60	536.50	-3.80	4.39
International	324.00	341.00	-0.70	...
Japan Smaller	469.20	493.80	+10.70	...
Singapore & Mal	408.80	430.30	-7.50	...
Smaller Cos	410.70	432.30	+6.30	...
Tokyo Fund	630.80	662.70	+7.40	...
UK Equity	615.80	648.20	-8.30	...
CCM Vangd Mg	758.30	798.20	-1.00	...
Equity Pens Cap	1037.5	1092.1	-11.30	...
NPI 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200				
Managed	493.60	519.50	+1.50	...
UK Equity	622.70	655.40	+3.60	...
Overseas Equity	485.10	510.60	+1.80	...
Americas	433.90	456.70	+0.90	...
Far East	568.70	598.60	-3.50	...
Property	201.80	212.40	-0.10	...
Fixed Interest	385.80	406.10	-4.00	...
Indexed Gilt	242.20	254.90	-3.70	...
Deposit	210.40	221.40	+0.10	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP 0603 622200				
Managed Fund	*1436.9*	*1512.5*	*+5.40*	...
Eqity Fund	3166.4	3333.1	+36.30	...
Property Fd	527.40	555.20	+1.00	...
Fixed Int Fd	622.90	655.70	-5.00	...
Deposit Fund	337.20	354.90	+0.30	...
Intl Fund	241.10	253.80	-1.70	...
PEARL ASSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 0733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dist	150.90	158.90	+0.20	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	303.80	319.80	+0.30	...
Inv Equity	1244.2	1309.7	+1.80	...
Inv Managed	862.70	908.20	+1.40	...
Pet Managed	969.10	1020.2	-1.80	...
For Prolific see Scottish Provident				
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	305.30	322.10	+2.30	...
Fxd Interest Acc	257.50	271.70	-4.20	...
International Acc	267.60	282.30	+7.00	...
Managed Acc	232.90	245.70	+1.80	...
Property Acc	224.20	236.50		
Money Acc	149.70	158.00	+0.10	...
Spec Mkt Acc	250.60	264.40	-5.40	...
Japan Equity Acc	113.70	120.00	+3.30	...
N Amer Acc	169.30	178.60	+4.60	...
Pacific Acc	180.60	190.60	-2.30	...
European Acc	177.50	187.30	+1.60	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL Walsworth Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP 0438 734000				
Managed Ord	477.40	502.50	+0.20	...
Managed Initial	331.60	349.10	...	...
Equity Ord	727.60	765.90	+3.70	...
Equity Init	505.40	532.00	+2.30	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	214.20	225.50	-3.90	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	155.40	163.60	-2.90	...
Overs Equity Ord	383.50	403.70	-2.40	...
Overs Equity Init	266.40	280.40	-1.80	...
Property Ord	252.00	265.30	+1.10	...
Property Init	175.00	184.20	+0.60	...
Fixed Int Ord	295.90	311.50	-2.80	...
Fixed Int Init	205.50	216.30	-2.10	...
Deposit Ord	200.70	211.30	+0.10	...
Deposit Initial	139.40	146.70	...	...
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 071 405 9222				
Managed	340.70	354.90	+1.60	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 071 548 3278				
Managed Fund	799.30	841.40	+2.10	...
Equity Fund	1546.8	1628.3	+11.20	...
Intl Fund	617.80	650.40	+0.60	...
Fixed Interest	605.50	637.40	-6.10	...
Property Fund	422.60	444.90	+1.60	...
Cash Fund	356.00	374.80	+0.30	...
Pacific Basin	376.30	396.20	-8.40	...
N American Fd	243.50	256.40	+1.80	...
Euro Fund	264.10	278.10	-0.70	...
Balanced Fund	158.40	166.80	+0.30	...
Strategic Fund	165.40	174.20	+1.40	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000				
Mult Grow (45)	1786.90	...	+52.70	...
-do- Acc	492.10	518.00	+33.10	...
Op Prop	455.50	479.50	...	...
Op Equity	900.80	948.30	+15.40	...
Op High Yield	613.20	645.50	+7.50	...
Op Managed	788.30	829.70	+8.30	...
Op Deposit	382.10	402.30	+0.50	...
Int Gth	333.20	350.80	+2.30	...
Japan Smlr	240.70	253.40	+7.70	...
Managed Gth	272.40	286.80	+1.00	...
Gilt	88.00	93.60	-0.80	...
British	404.40	425.70	+0.50	...
Global Bond	120.10	126.50	-0.60	...
Global (35,36)	185.00	194.80	-0.50	...
Gold Share	102.60	108.00	+3.40	...
High Income	321.70	338.70	+3.00	...
Income	464.20	488.70	-0.90	...
Japan	399.70	420.80	+11.30	...
UK Smlr Cos	329.00	346.40	-1.30	...
Mngd Growth	493.60	519.60	-1.60	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 051 239 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	975.90	1032.6	-1.00	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	389.30	409.60	-0.30	...
Equity Fund	559.30	588.70	+0.40	...
Property Fund	306.40	322.50	...	...
International	480.80	506.10	+0.40	...
Pacific Basin	302.40	318.30	-1.30	...
United States	254.30	267.60	+2.10	...
Gilt Fund	381.70	401.70	-4.10	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	767.80	812.60	-1.90	2.20
Deposit Fund (2)	358.40	379.30	+0.30	5.77
Gilt Fund	547.40	579.30	-5.10	6.82
Global Equity Fd	241.60	255.70	+0.50	...
Property Fund (46)	95.20	100.80	...	6.16
All Bond Fund	168.00	178.80	-0.70	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 041 248 2323				
Equity	586.00	616.90	-0.90	...
Fixed Interest	400.40	421.50	-1.70	...
Index-Linked	210.30	221.40	-3.30	...
International	461.90	486.30	+2.50	...
Property	260.30	274.00	+0.10	...
Cash	223.70	235.50	+0.10	...
Managed	466.70	491.30	+2.20	...
Cap Gteed Bd	116.40	122.60	+0.30	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 031 556 9101				
Cash	176.33	185.62	+0.14	...
Index-Linked	171.40	180.40	-2.80	...
Fixed Interest	188.10	198.00	-2.40	...
Mixed	257.60	271.10	+1.10	...
UK Equity	248.90	262.00	+1.90	...
International	258.90	272.50	+2.50	...
American	258.60	272.20	-1.00	...
Japan	221.30	232.90	+4.40	...
European	244.70	257.60	-1.50	...
Pacific	389.70	410.30	-4.20	...
Technology	348.40	366.70	+3.40	...
Currency/Currncy	234.30	246.60	-1.30	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 031 225 2211				
Property	199.00	209.60	+0.20	...
UK Equity	373.30	393.00	-5.70	...
American	261.40	275.30	-0.20	...
Pacific	379.30	399.40	-9.50	...
European	479.20	504.50	+3.90	...
International	324.40	341.60	-1.40	...
Fixed Interest	260.90	274.80	-1.30	...
Index Linked	209.90	221.10	-3.30	...
Deposit	188.80	198.80	+0.10	...
Managed	297.50	313.20	+1.70	...
Worldwide	134.60	141.80	+1.90	...
Pen Worldwide	144.30	152.00	+2.20	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	1629.3	1679.7	...	...
Safety Fund	248.80	261.90	+0.30	...
Growth Fund	234.60	247.00	-0.70	...
Opportunity Fd	234.60	247.00	+3.50	...
Cash Fund	169.80	178.80	+0.10	...
European Fund	350.10	368.60	+3.00	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	213.40	224.70	-1.90	...
Index-Linked Fd	193.20	203.40	-3.60	...
International Fd	300.00	315.80	-3.80	...
North American	245.60	258.60	+0.60	...
Property Fund	121.60	128.10	-0.20	...
UK Equity	254.80	268.30	+6.60	...
UK Smaller	233.80	246.20	+10.10	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 556 9181				
Mixed	274.10	288.70	+2.30	...
Equity	286.80	302.00	+0.70	...
International	295.30	310.90	-2.90	...
Property	212.90	224.20	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	226.90	238.90	-2.60	...
Index Linked	188.80	198.80	-3.30	...
Cash	182.40	192.10	+0.10	...
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	820.20	872.60	+2.10	...
Cash Fund	329.60	347.40	+0.30	...
Property Fund	234.00	249.00	+0.40	...
Equity Fund	979.70	1042.3	-2.10	...
Fxd Interest Fund	471.00	495.40	-2.10	...
International	440.70	468.90	-1.70	...
High Income	731.60	778.30	+7.80	...
Far East	655.80	697.70	+9.10	...
North American	570.20	606.70	+8.00	...
Special Sits	655.40	697.30	+0.90	...
Technology	546.70	581.50	+9.30	...
Extra Income Fd	393.10	418.20	+2.00	...
Gilt Fund	488.80	520.10	-1.30	...
European	153.30	163.10	-0.10	...
Adventurous Mg	232.00	244.30	+2.20	...
Secure Mgd	149.40	159.00	+0.40	...
Equity Inc Dist	121.10	131.00	+0.80	4.60
North American	117.90	125.50	+0.30	5.17
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	937.00	993.00	+21.50	...
Inv Pol 2	904.40	952.10	+20.40	...
Inv Pol 3	868.30	914.00	+19.30	...
Inv Cash	304.70	320.90	+0.50	...
Mixed Fund	471.00	496.00	+2.10	...
Equity Fund	559.40	588.80	+7.20	...
Property Fund	224.40	236.40	+0.30	...
International Fd	500.90	527.30	...	...
Fixed Interest Fd	401.10	422.30	-3.90	...
Indexed Stock Fd	210.80	222.00	-2.90	...
Cash Fund	221.60	233.40	+0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 0703 334411				
Managed Acc	382.90	403.00	+0.70	...
Equity Acc	455.10	479.08	+3.10	...
International Acc	347.20	365.40	+3.20	...
Property	210.60	221.60	+0.20	...
Royal Trust Mg	246.80	259.50	-1.20	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 031 225 2552				
Cash	261.70	275.50	+0.20	...
Equity	1051.3	1106.7	+7.10	...
European	171.00	180.00	+1.00	...
Far East	177.50	187.30	-5.20	...
Fixed Interest	424.00	446.40	-3.00	...
Index Linked	217.10	228.60	-2.70	...
International	632.70	666.00	-7.60	...
Managed	730.70	769.20	+0.80	...
Nth American	147.80	155.60	+0.80	...
Property	337.50	355.30	+0.40	...
Pensions				
Cash	403.80	425.10	+0.30	...
Equity	1517.4	1597.3	+15.60	...
European	205.70	216.60	+1.20	...
Far East	143.40	151.00	-5.30	...
Fixed Interest	570.70	600.80	-7.00	...
Index Linked	300.80	316.70	-3.80	...
International	896.90	944.20	-13.00	...
Managed	1026.4	1080.5	+2.30	...
Nth American	186.00	195.80	-1.40	...
Property	431.60	454.60	-0.20	...
Stock Exchange	232.60	244.90	+0.60	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 0403 232323				
Managed Fund	680.20	716.00	+0.90	...
Equity Fund	909.90	957.80	+2.80	...
Fixed Interest Fd	446.00	469.50	-6.00	...
Index-Linked Fd	326.60	343.80	-5.20	...
Property Fund	483.50	509.00	+0.60	...
International Fd	650.20	684.50	-0.50	...
N American Fd	249.50	262.70	+0.90	...
Far East Fund	248.20	261.30	-6.60	...
Deposit Fund	287.50	302.70	+0.20	...
International Bd	288.68	...	+1.91	...
Worldwide Bond	166.80	175.60	-1.30	...
Worldwide Fixd	80.00	84.30		
Worldwide Tech	95.20	100.30	+0.10	...
European	165.20	173.90	-0.30	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	669.60	705.00	+2.00	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	457.60	487.70		...
Property Growth				
Property Fund	554.60	...	+0.70	...
-do- Acc	519.20	...	+0.60	...
Agricultural Fd	788.30	...	+0.50	...
-do- Acc	757.30	...	+0.40	...
Abbey Nat Fd	419.80	...	+0.40	...
Abbey Nat Acc	445.40	...	+0.40	...
Investment Fd	360.30	...	+0.50	...
Investment (A)	346.40	...	+0.50	...
Equity	1317.8	...	+4.00	...
Equity Acc	1264.5	...	+3.80	...
Money Fund	856.40	...	-0.30	...
-do- Acc	437.30	...	+0.30	...
Actuarial Fd	602.30	...		
Gilt-Edged Fd	416.60	...	-5.30	...
-do- Acc	416.60	...	-5.30	...
Retire Annuity	1130.0	...	+60.20	...
Immed Annuity	313.50	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	219.60	...	+0.10	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 0256 841414				
Growth Account	1523.4	...	+23.90	...
Managed Acc	858.60	...	...	...
Equity Account	1227.7	...	...	...
Mngd Fund Acc	396.90	417.80	...	...
Equity Fund Acc	539.30	567.70	...	...
Prop Fund Acc	233.00	245.30	...	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	343.10	361.20	...	...
Money Fund Acc	215.50	226.90	...	...
Indx-Lnk Sec Ac	222.00	233.70	...	...
Pens Pens Acct	1932.8	...	+29.70	...
Pens Mngd Acct	898.60	945.90	-14.60	...
Pens Guarantee	232.80	245.10	-0.70	...
Pens Equity	346.00	364.20	+6.80	...
Pens Property	260.20	280.20	+4.50	...
Pens Fixed Int	311.60	328.00	+2.00	...
Pens Intl	242.00	254.70	+3.40	...
Pens Money	228.30	240.30	+0.40	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	210.10	221.20	+2.70	...
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0272 426911				
Managed Acc	934.00	984.20	+5.20	...
Property Acc	349.30	367.70	-3.20	...
Equity Acc	1528.5	1609.0	+18.00	...
Fixed Int Acc	423.70	446.10	-4.40	...
Index-Linked Acc	217.50	228.80	-3.70	...
Cash Acc	301.30	317.20	+0.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	363.50	382.70	-1.60	...
Japan Acc	279.90	294.70	+1.30	...
Pacific Acc	415.00	436.80	-4.70	...
Far Eastern Acc	924.10	972.80	-7.80	...
International Acc	596.50	627.90	+5.80	...
Distribution Fund	303.70	319.70	+0.90	3.47
European	190.20	200.30	+1.40	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants, SP10 1RE 0264 345678				
Managed Fund	291.20	306.60	-1.20	...
Property Fund	196.60	207.00	-0.10	...
Fixed Interest Fd	235.10	247.60	-1.90	...
Money Fund	194.60	205.00	+0.10	...
Equity Fund	386.40	406.90	+2.10	...
TARGET LIFE The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394000				
Deposit	243.20	256.10	+0.20	...
Financial Ser 1	51.10	54.90	-0.10	...
Fixed Interest	330.90	348.50	-1.10	...
Gold	98.10	103.40	+4.00	...
Managed	640.50	674.30	-6.30	...
Mngd Growth	198.60	209.10	-8.20	...
Mngd Opp	206.30	217.30	-8.30	...
Property	283.00	297.90		
Residential Prop	94.00	99.00		
TSB American	216.40	227.90	+3.30	...
TSB Brit Gwth	882.70	929.30	+1.90	...
TSB European	274.10	288.70	+3.90	...
TSB Income	425.60	448.30	+5.20	...
TSB Intl	439.90	463.00	-0.20	...
TSB Ind Inc	299.00	314.90	-1.10	...
TSB Pacific	448.00	471.70	-17.50	...
TSB Prem Inc	239.40	250.00	-0.60	...
WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 0952 292929				
Managed Bond	722.20	761.00	+6.30	...
Money Fund	309.60	324.80	-0.40	...
Equity Fund	605.60	638.10	+11.70	...
Fund Interest	293.40	309.20	+1.90	...
Property Fund	341.30	359.60	...	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	595.60	627.60	+33.30	...
Income	775.10	816.60	+21.80	...
International Gth	654.00	668.10	+23.70	...
Capital Fund	624.50	657.60	+20.80	...
Recovery Fund	641.50	676.00	+33.30	...
Japan & General	266.80	281.20	+4.30	...



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Covering the cost of care



When getting a mortgage takes for ever

The application of unnecessarily strict borrowing requirements by mortgage lenders may be putting the brakes on recovery, says **Liz Dolan**.

Schizophrenic mortgage lenders are heaving obstacles into the path of potential borrowers, even as they try and tempt buyers back into the market with ever-lower mortgage rates on which they admit they cannot always hope to make a profit.

Stories abound of lenders imposing seemingly arbitrary conditions on perfectly respectable borrowers, or who accept, apparently without question, surveyors' valuations that undercut purchase prices by up to 20 per cent.

Andrew Pierce, a journalist, was so infuriated by the behaviour of his Alliance & Leicester Building Society branch that he is applying for a mortgage with another lender. Mr Pierce's problems began when he agreed to pay £84,000 for a flat in East London. The asking price was £90,000 and the council tax band is E, for properties worth between £88,000 and £120,000.

The surveyor valued the property at £70,000. Mr Pierce says: "I thought it was a typing error. They just said I obviously didn't understand how the market's changed." No reasons were given for the low valuation.

Mr Pierce requested a second opinion and, after much argument, A&L agreed to send its staff valuer free of charge. "He came back with exactly the same valuation. £70,000. I couldn't believe it."

After intensive questioning by Mr Pierce, the society finally admitted that the surveyor had not even got out of his car. "They just said that he knew the block and had valued another flat there already. They wouldn't say when or which one."

The A&L now admits that the branch never commissioned a second survey. It merely asked a staff valuer to review the initial report. "Having knowledge of the block in question and values in the area, he was of the opinion that the panel valuer's views were correct," it says. "It was not considered appropriate or necessary to seek a further valuation. In the opinion of the society's valuers, Mr Pierce is paying too much and may be well advised to heed the opinion of two professional valuers."

Mr Pierce's £155 survey fee has now been returned, but he has still switched to a different lender. The results of the survey for this mortgage are due on Monday.

"Lenders' attitudes to surveyors' reports are probably our biggest problem," agrees Mark Solan, of Kinleigh, the estate agency chain. "We had one property where the asking price was £280,000, and an offer of £275,000 was accepted. The surveyor valued it at £220,000. The vendor was incensed and offered to pay for a second survey." Another surveyor on the lender's approved list valued the property at £275,000.

Mr Solan is also concerned that potential buyers can end up paying a fortune because nervous lenders request extra reports on the back of the initial survey. These might be anything from drainage inspections and electrical surveys to reports by tree surgeons and timber and damp specialists. All of this means extra expense, much of which would appear to be avoidable.

> 'Estate agents can't remember lenders ever being this cautious'

Mr Solan cites the example of a tree surgeon called in because the survey had mentioned the proximity of a tree to a manhole. The tree surgeon recommended that a drains' survey should be carried out. "Why didn't they do that in the first place?

"We tell buyers that reports can make properties sound worse than they are because lenders are trying to cover themselves and surveyors are worried about being sued. But they're still wary because they think we're biased. Estate agents who have been in the business ten or 15 years say they can't remember lenders ever being this cautious."

"An increasing number have lost out twice already and aren't so keen to stump up another £200 to £300 to miss out for a third time. There may also be a question of solicitors' fees, search fees or whatever. It all eats into the extra cash."

Happily, buyers are becoming more knowledgeable. Brian McCallum, a first-time buyer, advises calling the lender's bluff. "My attitude is, there are all these people out there touting for business. The banks and building societies are having a hard time and, in my experience, they're prepared to bargain."

For instance, Mr McCallum got National Westminster to pay his surveyor's fees, simply by informing the bank that another lender was prepared to contribute up to £250 for the same service.

He is now awaiting the bank's decision on whether he will be able to change the terms of his fixed-rate mortgage application. "The rate came down by 0.5 per cent after I'd applied, but before I'd signed. I told them I'd go to the Halifax if they didn't put me on the cheaper rate. Half a per cent is a lot of money over five years."

Mr McCallum had no problem with the results of his survey. NatWest Home Loans, which is selling the flat after repossession, accepted an offer of £45,000. The surveyor valued the property at the same amount, but recommended work be carried out, for which NatWest is retaining £4,200 of the mortgage. This is slightly less than quotes received from builders to carry out the work.

Neither did Mr McCallum have any problems convincing NatWest that he could afford to repay the mortgage, in spite of the fact that, as a freelance designer, his income is volatile. He puts this down to the fact that he also banks with NatWest.

Elizabeth Brown, a lawyer, had a different experience. In spite of the fact that both she and Richard Evans, her partner, have been exemplary NatWest accountholders for a number of years, they have had to fight hard to get the mortgage they wanted.

She says: "I thought it would be so easy. We're dream mortgage customers — both in our 30s, good credit histories, high earners in permanent employment." However, when the couple decided to buy a house together, they hit problems. Mr Evans sold his flat, but Ms Brown decided to rent hers out until house price improvements had cancelled out her £6,000 negative equity problem. NatWest Home Loans promptly insisted on a 20 per cent deposit and demanded that monthly repayments should not exceed one third of disposable income, excluding any rental income from Ms Brown's flat. "Apart from anything else, they make no distinction between low and high earners. I pointed out that one third of a lot is a lot, and two thirds of a lot is still quite a bit. In fact, each of us could finance the entire mortgage by ourselves."

However, NatWest was behaving no differently from other lenders. An exhaustive search by a mortgage broker revealed that only the Halifax was prepared to accept the couple as mortgage customers. "We decided to stay with NatWest because I am on good terms with my bank manager. He's behaved brilliantly all the way through."

Ms Brown's secretary has encountered enormous problems getting a mortgage because she is on a short-term contract. She says: "The problem is going to get worse. Companies are increasingly reluctant to take on permanent clerical staff, especially in the computer industry, policies."



STURROCK/NETWORK

For sale, but will the surveyor's report and valuation put the property on the wrong side of the street?

All active on the home front

BUYERS and sellers alike have returned to the housing market with renewed enthusiasm in the first week of the new year (Liz Dolan writes).

Estate agencies, already optimistic after the recent flurry of encouraging economic statistics, report that business has been even better than expected. Adrian Adams, marketing director of the Chancellors chain, said: "The signs are very encouraging. We have been getting lots of enquiries. They are well up on this time last year."

A tour of branches in south Oxfordshire reinforced his optimism. "I have just spoken to the manager of our Watlington branch, and he is very excited. They have seen a tremendous surge in interest."

However, Mr Adams said: "Whether it will continue is another question."

Business has also been brisk at Kinleigh, a London agency. Mark Solan, of the company's Southfields branch, said: "Owners are coming back on the market and we have registered a lot more people than we expected to."

The branch was asked to carry out six valuations on Wednesday alone. "That is very good at any time. We are all feeling really good about things. Lots of buyers who have been shopping around for bargains in the past six months are now discovering that they cannot get away with silly offers. We are now able to say "sorry, it's gone" much more often. It's great."

Weekend Money is edited by Rose Wild

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Life customers still sold short

COMMENT



LINDSAY COOK
Deputy Business Editor

We are getting there. But oh, so slowly. Five years ago, the Office of Fair Trading decided it would be fair for the customers of life assurance companies to know how much they were paying for the latest whizzbang insurance policy.

The Securities and Investments Board, the regulator of life assurance, disagreed. Astonishingly, it argued that it was not possible to tell customers how much commission was paid to salespeople, nor was it relevant to the sale.

Since then, the management of SIB has changed. Now, at last, it has published new recommendations which broadly follow the original line of the OFT. Customers should be allowed to know what they are paying.

The Treasury ruled last year that commission should be revealed in cash terms before the customer signed on the dotted line. Kenneth Clarke may not be an economist, but he recognised that if a salesman was paid £1,000 to sell a unit-linked policy and £400 to sell unit trusts managed by the same people, he might be tempted by the larger sum.

All well and good so far, but customers are still being sold short. The regulators recommend that insurance companies tell customers: "If you are advised to buy a plan by an independent adviser or one of our company representatives, we will pay them commission."

You might get the impression that the insurance company foots this bill out of the kindness of its heart. Actually, the customer will pay eventually, because the money will be taken from the premiums he or she pays into the policy in the early years. Typically, someone taking out a £50-a-month endowment policy will find that more than £500 is lost in commission. Other expenses will also eat into the initial investment.

Policyholders who cash in within the first few years are warned by the caring SIB that they are unlikely to get back as much as they put in. The board suggests that insurance companies should use gentle phrases.

They should ask customers to "be careful". They should suggest that customers "will probably get back less" than they paid if the policy is stopped early. To find out how much less, of course, they must keep on reading the small print.

In the vast majority of cases, it takes five years or more to get back the amount paid out in premiums when cancelling a policy. This is because of the setting-up charges, including commission, charged in the early years.

Of course, it is useful for customers who may have to surrender early to know in advance how much they stand to lose. But buyers of 25-year policies who have no intention of surrendering their policies early might also like to have clearly stated how much of their money is invested at the end of years one, two and three, so they can make comparisons with other investments.

It may seem curmudgeonly to be so critical of the latest set of draft rules. They do, after all, go a long way towards what we have long called for. But now victory for the policyholders of Britain is in sight, we must ensure that policies are not couched in the weasel words so beloved of the insurance industry. It is the customer who pays, and he or she should know exactly how much.

Charging banks

It is not only insurance customers who need information clearly in print, in advance of paying for a service. As the banks thrash out their revised code of practice for personal customers, it is worth those customers making clear that they would like to know how much is going to be plundered from their current accounts for charges incurred when their accounts are overdrawn.

National Westminster, TSB and Bank of Scotland already pre-notify customers of charges. Lloyds plans to do so soon. Barclays, along with other banks, does not think its customers want such a service.

Pre-notification of overdraft charges was, however, one of the strongest demands made before the code was implemented. Most other organisations have to submit a bill before they can expect payment. Banks should be no different.

An RCN hotline has intensified concerns about hard-sell tactics. **Liz Dolan** reports

Nursing grievances on private pensions



Some nurses seem to have been targeted as vulnerable little females, the RCN says

An emergency pensions hotline, set up after Christmas by the Royal College of Nursing, has been flooded with calls from nurses who fear that they have been wrongly advised to switch out of the NHS pensions scheme into less generous personal plans.

Martin Burke, group marketing manager of RCN Membership Services, said: "The switchboard was constantly jammed, and we're already trying to get more lines. We've dealt with more than 200 enquiries. That may not sound very many, but that was simply the number who were able to get through."

The nature of the individual calls has yet to be analysed properly, but the RCN's worst fears are already being realised. Mr Burke said: "I've taken a quick look at 50 or 60 cases and, depressingly, only in a couple of cases have we been able to reassure callers that their pension arrangements appear to be OK."

Almost all the remainder involved the apparent misselling of private pension plans by sales staff employed directly, or indirectly, by some of Britain's biggest and best known insurance companies.

Most enquiries appear to relate to private plans taken out in 1989, at the height of the Government's campaign to encourage people to switch into private pensions. "That was the time when TV and the press were plastered with adverts offering bribes to opt out of Serps," Mr Burke said.

Many of the nurses are unable to recall specific reasons for moving from the NHS scheme. Where they could remember, performance and flexibility were the two most common reasons given. "They were told that the private plans were likely to perform better. A lot were young females, who were told 'look, you're going to want kids, or maybe leave the profession altogether. Our plans allow you to do that.' They appear to have been targeted as poor, vulnerable little females."

The hotline opened on December 29, after the Securities and Investments Board launched an enquiry into allegations that hundreds of thousands of people may have been wrongly advised to leave generous company schemes.

The RCN said it had been concerned for some time that nurses were being lured into leaving the NHS scheme by "hard-sell tactics" employed by pensions sales staff. An article in an RCN journal entitled "Your Pension Under Threat" drew 9,000 responses. "And this was before recent publicity from the SIB on poor pensions advice," it says.

Christine Hancock, general-secretary of the RCN, said: "The new service should put nurses' minds at rest and provide independent advice in their best interests. The RCN wants the new year to spell the end of attempts to entice nurses away from the NHS superannuation scheme, which remains the best choice for most."

The helpline number is: 0277 264875.

Booming shares rescue bonuses

Jill Insley and **Rose Wild** guide bemused policyholders through the with-profits payout maze

Life insurers this week began announcing their annual bonuses on with-profits insurance and pensions policies. There were fears that poor investment performances would lead to heavy bonus cuts. The strength of equities in the second half of the year, however, has softened the blow, and some bonuses have been maintained at last year's levels.

Policyholders will shortly receive bonus declaration letters, which show how much money is guaranteed to be paid by their policies. After examining their statements, most will be little the wiser.

The maturity value of a with-profits policy consists of three parts — the sum assured, the annual bonus, and the terminal bonus. The sum assured is the level of insurance cover selected at the inception of the policy by the policyholder. The annual, or reversionary bonus, reflects the insurance company's estimate of how the policyholder's investment is likely to increase over the long term. To complicate matters, insurers may use two different bonus rates to calculate the annual bonus each year. One rate relates to the sum assured, while the second, usually higher, rate relates to existing annual bonuses, referred to as attaching bonuses, added to the policy in previous years.

Once the annual bonus has been declared, it is guaranteed. It cannot be taken away or reduced by the insurer. The terminal bonus, which the insurer pays on maturity of a policy, reflects the insurer's investment performance during the term of the policy and above annual bonuses. This bonus is calculated using a rate expressed as a percentage of every £1,000 assured.

If insurers have been too conservative in setting annual bonuses so the final value does not reflect the interest earned on the policyholder's money, they can compensate by paying out large terminal bonuses. This bonus is not shown in the insurer's statements. If the policyholder dies, the insurer will pay out the sum assured plus attaching bonuses and part of the terminal bonus.

Some companies, notably Standard Life and Scottish Amicable, pay terminal bonuses that comprise a very large proportion of the total payout. This approach allows a more flexible investment policy, but it also means returns are less certain and more dependent on the final bonus, and a secure investment environment in the last years of the policy. Others, such as Commercial Union and General Accident, place more emphasis on the guaranteed part of the payout with higher reversionary bonuses. Last year General Accident superceded Standard Life to lead the payout tables.

Name of Company	1994 maturity values 10-year policy	1994 maturity values 25-year policy
General Accident	8,567 (7,080) -6.6%	65,604 (65,255) +0.5%
Friends Provident	8,709 (6,885) -2.6%	61,636 (61,486) +0.2%
Scottish Life	8,105 (8,218) -1.8%	63,252 (62,882) +0.6%
Norwich Union	8,674 (6,992) -4.5%	58,694 (58,237) +0.8%
Clerical Medical	8,537 (6,958) -6.1%	60,820 (61,419) +0.9%
Equity & Law	8,734 (7,263) -7.3%	61,130 (62,687) -2.8%

Table shows maturity values of with-profits endowment policies taken out by a man, aged 29, paying £30 per month.
Figures in brackets represent 1993; % rise or fall

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Giving patients the benefit of a less taxing time

Nicola Cole looks at how private health insurers intend to get to grips with the imposition of a tax of 3 per cent on premiums, as proposed in the Budget

Some subscribers to Britain's largest private medical insurers should escape the Budget-proposed 3 per cent impost on premiums from October.

"We are going to try to absorb the new tax and not pass it on to our members," said a senior spokesman for the British United Provident Association, which covers 1.5 million subscribers and their 1.5 million dependants.

The group fears that the tax may well deter both subscription renewals and potential new members. Not only would this run counter to the Government's advocacy of wider self-provision, but could also "upset the balance" between rising claims and private insurers' increasingly successful cost-containment efforts, Bupa believes.

Bupa will not, however, be swallowing the impact of the planned removal of relief on premium payments by veteran members who are higher-rate taxpayers. From April 6, the relief on private medical insurance for the over-60s will be restricted to 25 per cent.

Bupa was the first to announce its intention to reduce or freeze subscriptions for several of its schemes, while raising others by between 2 and 6 per cent. For a 40-year-old married man, his wife and two children, monthly payments for Healthchoice will from this month be £37.35 (compared with £43.68 a year ago); Bupa Care scales will be £72.78-£173.16 (£72.05-£173.16).

Private Patients Plan, which covers 1.75 million people, is raising by an overall average of 4 per cent the 1994 subscriptions on its five direct-sale "Health Options" plans. Some customers will pay more, some less; others will see no rise at all.

Increases for "core products" have been kept to a minimum, says Brian Little, general manager of PPP's personal division. A "further adjustment" may be made in July.

An overall uplift of about 7 per cent applies to the price of PPP cover arranged through intermediaries. Benefits under this cover vary in extent from those under policies bought direct from the group, which is keeping costs down and aiming to expand its 29 per cent market share.

PPP's least expensive cover for a four-person family is now £32.80 a month, through its "Value" plan bought direct.

Exeter Friendly Society raised its rates by 10-12 per cent "across the board" from January 1. The 500,000 plus members of **Western Provident Association** can anticipate an increase from April; it will "not be very much", predicts David Ashdown, WPA's marketing director.

Norwich Union expects to review the premiums position twice during 1994; the March and September outcomes will depend partly on the claims level plus the effectiveness of "active cost-management".

Although uplifts cannot be ruled out, account will be taken of the "pretty static" state of demand and the deterrent impact on consumer buying intentions of large increases one year, followed by large decreases the next.

"It encourages people to think: 'Do I really want this?'. We prefer to see lower percentage increases applied consistently over a period of time," observes Tim Baker, business development manager of NU Healthcare, which is based in Eastleigh.

A one-off increase of less than 10 per cent was applied by **NU Healthcare** last year. For two parents aged 40-59 and two children under 17, the total monthly base rate premium is currently £47.00, via the family budget-oriented Personal Care contract, or £39.80 with the 15 per cent discount for group/association membership. The latter is seen to be as valuable a benefit as a car or subsidised training, particularly by employees in their twenties.

At all levels, including the upper age ranges where heart bypass surgery involves claims of £30,000-£40,000 a time, inflationary trends are combatted with methods beyond simply introducing limited-scope cheaper policies.

These methods include pre-notification of claims, expert account-checking and carefully-negotiated contracts with private, National Health Service and trust (independent NHS) hospitals whose charges collectively comprise about 70 per cent of benefits paid out.

The aim is high-quality care delivered on "the best terms", NU Healthcare explains; this entails earliest possible discharge with surgeons' agreement and medical guidelines, as well as growing use of day-case surgery.

A 5 per cent increase in the volume of treatments given this way has been "helpful in containing costs" during the past year, Bupa discloses.

A free guide to buying medical insurance is available from Nuffield Hospitals. Telephone: 0202 300 358.



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TIMES 4/1/94

Customs widens duty-free rates for goods bought abroad

Margaret Dibben says the new limits for souvenirs and gifts are still pitifully low

Skiers returning from Switzerland, Austria or America can now buy far more duty-free souvenirs than people returning from France, Italy or Spain. From January 1, the allowances that all travellers can bring into the United Kingdom without paying duty or tax went up from £36. However, it rises more sharply for those returning from outside the European Community, although the levels are still pitifully small and below the amounts that the Government wanted.

On Christmas Eve, Customs and Excise confirmed that travellers arriving in the UK from outside the EC could bring in £136-worth of goods, while those arriving from Community countries would be limited to £71.

However, while the £71 limit for EC travellers is lower, it applies only to duty and tax-free goods as there are now no restrictions on the amount of duty-paid items that can be imported within the Community.

Restrictions were abolished a year ago on the amount of tobacco, alcohol or gifts that can be bought within the EC, provided the local duty and tax has been paid and the purchases are all for personal consumption. In spite of this, Customs and Excise has set down what it believes are reasonable volumes that one person can consume: 800 cigarettes, 10 litres of spirits, 90 litres of wine and 110 litres of beer.

The latest changes apply only to gifts and souvenirs bought in duty-free shops; there are no increases to the amount of duty-free alcohol and tobacco that can be imported.

The new rules still need to be ratified by the House of Commons, but the new allowances have already taken effect. By the end of the decade, there will no longer be any duty-free allowances within the Community.

Allowances on goods bought on journeys outside the European Community and for every journey within the EC

Cigarettes	200
or Cigarillos	100
or Cigars	50
or Tobacco	250g
Still table wine	2 litres
Spirits	1 litre
Fortified or sparkling wine	2 litres
An additional still wine allowance	2 litres
Perfume	60 cc/ml
Toilet water	250 cc/ml



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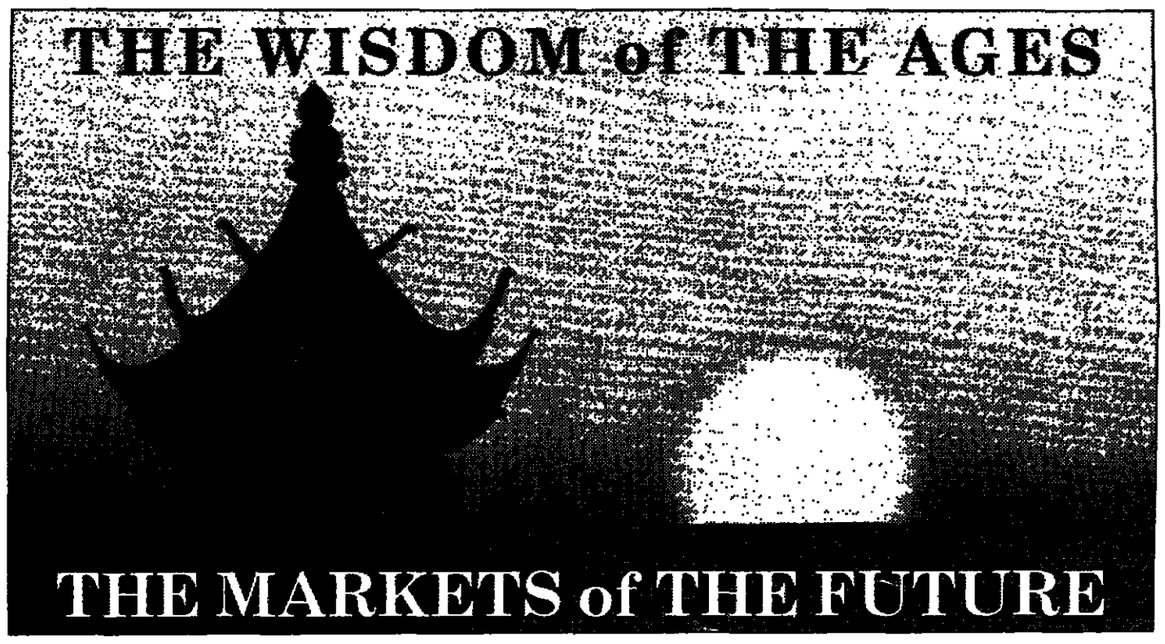
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BRIEFINGS

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□ First Medical Finance has launched a Healthcare loan, which enables private patients to spread the cost of treatment over a maximum of five years. Unsecured loans of between £750 and £10,000 are available, with no early redemption penalties. Details on: 071-828 2000.

□ Chelsea Building Society's Base Rate Plus (second issue) account is to close to new investors on January 15. The account pays 5.63 per cent net, for interest paid annually, guaranteed until at least April 1 this year.

□ The Skipton Building Society has launched a Balanced Portfolio bond in conjunction with GA Life. Forty per cent of the investment goes into a Skipton instant access fund, which pays variable interest, currently 6.75 per cent net. The remainder is invested in a portfolio bond, invested in equities and managed by GA Life.

□ Three long-term fixed-rate mortgages are to be launched by National Westminster on Monday. New customers can fix at 8.45 per cent for 15, 20 or 25 years. The arrangement fee is £250. Early repayment, including lump-sum reductions, cost 12 months' interest. The mortgages are fully portable if transferred to a main property.

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Fund	One year performance
PACIFIC STRATEGY	+94.5%
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MEXICAN HORIZONS	+60.9%

Source: Micropal & John Govett. Offer to bid net income reinvested to 1.1.94 (Mexican Horizons' NAV to NAV in sterling terms)

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Beware: knee-deep policy holders may find insurance companies unwilling to pay to replace damaged goods

Insurers on weather alert

Margaret Dibben tests the water for limitations on damage claims

Insurance companies are on the alert for claims in the wake of this week's severe weather, but householders may be disappointed if they expect a new carpet or furniture to replace damaged goods.

Instead, insurers will insist that the damaged items are cleaned, rather than renewed. A spokesman for Norwich Union says: "Flood damage looks horrible, but most of it can be cleaned."

Most flood-related claims are straightforward — if anything has been damaged by storm water, a claim can be made — but insurance companies will make sure that negligence has not contributed to the trouble. If, as is often the case, there has been a warning of a possible overflow, then valuables should, if possible, be moved out of harm's way.

The house should also be kept in good repair. If the sheer volume of rain or snow has caused a roof to leak, it can be argued that this is storm rather than water damage and should be covered by insurance. Royal Insurance's spokesman explains: "If gale force rain and driving winds move the slates on the roof and it leaks, that is what the policy is there for. But if there was simply an abnormally wet period and you failed to clean out the guttering for a long time, so it overflows and soaks the walls, that is clearly lack of maintenance."

Insurance policies will pay out if flood water damages a home, but not if the house suffers simply because the weather is wet. A warped doorframe, says Royal, is just wear and tear.

This winter's exceptional rain could make the soil swell, creating cracks in the walls. This will probably not be anything to worry about, says a spokesman for Norwich Union, but the insurance company should be told, and a surveyor may be sent to monitor the cracks over the next few months.

In most cases, all that will be needed is a bit of plastering, he said, and the insured person is expected to pay for that.

Paying in vain for a funeral

A policy begun in 1940 proved sadly deficient because it was without-profits

When Mrs Cecil Nelson took out a life assurance policy with the Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society in 1940, the £24 sum assured would have been enough to pay for a respectable funeral (Liz Dolan writes). But, when she died, aged 94, the policy paid a miserly £96.03.

For 30 years, Mrs Nelson had made regular payments, totalling £78. The premium was a shilling (5p) a week and, in 1940, the sum assured was worth nearly eight times the amount paid by the LVFS last year in real terms.

During the intervening years, the value of the pound has slipped so much that the equivalent buying power of £1 in 1993 would have been 4.5p in 1940. Then, the average man earned £4.45 a week and the average woman £1.95, compared with the current average weekly wage of £316.90. Even when Mrs Nelson's contributions ceased in 1970, £1 was still worth £7.64 in today's terms.

Horrified by the miserly payout, Cecil Dick, Mrs Nelson's nephew, wrote to the LVFS requesting an explanation. The society effectively blamed its members. It said: "In accordance with resolutions passed at the society's annual general meeting by *members themselves* [our italics], such qualifying policies were excluded from future bonus allocations." In recent years, the company has started paying a terminal bonus on the policies but, when the basic sum assured is £24, even a bonus of 300 per cent does not add very much to the final payout.

According to Clive Hanson, product manager, the main problem was that Mrs Nelson's policy had been a without-profits contract. He said: "We recognised that inflation was eating away their value and stopped selling them ages ago. All our contracts are now with-profits. Last year, we realised that many people were not sufficiently covered for funeral expenses and produced a funeral expenses plan."



Dick: demanded details

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FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	9,100	Cadbury	2,400	MEPC	1,100	Scot Power	2,400
Abbey Natl	3,900	Caradon	3,300	Marks Spr	3,600	Sears	4,900
Alld-Lyons	1,000	Carlton Cms	1,100	NFC	1,000	Svrn Trent	717
Anglian W	1,400	Coats Vyla	3,400	NatWst Bk	5,100	Shell Trans	6,000
Argyll Gp	5,300	Cm Union	1,800	Nat Power	1,800	Siebe	1,900
Arjo Wiggn	839	Courtaulds	1,600	Nth Wst W	850	SmKl Bch	3,100
AB Foods	157	Enterpr Oil	3,600	Nthrn Fds	2,700	Smith Nph	4,100
BAA	551	Forte	543	P & O	1,600	Sthrn Elec	850
BAT Inds	4,400	GRE	1,700	Pearson	1,100	Std Chard	694
BOC	*1,100*	*GUS*	*1,500*	*PowerGen*	*3,700*	*Sun Allnce*	*2,200*
BP	8,200	Gen Acc	623	Prudential	11,000	TI Gp	1,500
BT	10,000	Gen Elec	9,800	RMC	416	TSB	6,000
BTR	9,700	Glaxo	9,000	RTZ	1,900	Tesco	6,800
Bk of Scot	3,200	Granada	4,900	Rank Org	2,700	Thames W	2,100
Barclays	6,200	Grand Met	6,800	Reckitt Col	513	Thm EMI	2,400
Bass	3,200	Guinness	2,900	Redland	2,500	Tomkins	4,700
Blue Circle	2,200	HSBC	4,200	Reed Intl	3,900	Unilever	1,500
Boots	3,100	Hanson	15,000	Rentokil	985	Utd Bisc	3,100
Bowater	5,600	ICI	1,400	Reuters	1,900	Vodafone	5,800
Brit Aero	2,200	Inchcape	2,000	Rolls Royce	6,100	Wrbrg (SG)	1,000
Brit Airwys	6,400	Kingfisher	3,700	Ryl Ins	2,600	Wellcome	3,900
Brit Gas	6,800	Ladbroke	13,000	Ryl Bk Scot	2,100	Whtbd 'A'	2,300
Brit Steel	5,600	Land Secs	580	Sainsbury	2,700	Wllms Hld	1,800
Burmah Cstl	285	Legal & Gn	1,600	Schroders	75	Wolseley	623
Cable Wire	5,000	Lloyds Bk	5,900	Scot & New	2,200	Zeneca	2,700

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones ...... 3806.41 (+2.53)
S&P Composite ...... 467.94 (+0.82)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge ...... 18124.01 (+242.02)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng ...... 11001.48 (-375.02)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index ...... 424.02 (+0.45)

Sydney: AO ...... 2186.0 (-14.3)

Frankfurt:
DAX ...... 2211.64 (-8.58)

FT 30 share: ...... 2617.6 (+36.9)

Brussels:
General ...... 7667.00 (+27.18)

Paris: CAC-40 ...... 2307.55 (+32.49)

Zurich: SKA Gen ...... 724.30 (+3.00)

London:
FT A All-Share ...... 1705.99 (+22.38)
FT Non Financials ...... 1816.17 (+25.22)
FT Gold Mines ...... 268.9 (-2.8)
FT Fixed Interest ...... 131.06 (+0.07)
FT Govt Secs ...... 106.65 (+0.19)
Bargains 41497
SEAQ Volume 1045.9m
USM (Datastrm) ...... 157.24 (+1.39)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
December 20	January 7	March 24	April 5

Call options were taken out on 7/1/94: ACT Group, ASDA, Baldwin, Carlisle Group, Greycoat, Hazlewood Foods, Middlesex Group, Monarch Resources, Psion, Upton & Southern.
Puts: Psion, Signet, Tiphook. **Puts & Calls:** Arcon Intl, Donelon Tyson.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 94	3427.0	3478.0	3413.0	3465.0	17643
Previous open interest: 66413	Jun 94	3424.5	3483.0	3424.5	3477.5	1444
Three Month Sterling	Mar 94	94.73	94.77	94.71	94.75	22951
Previous open interest: 382549	Jun 94	94.90	94.96	94.88	94.95	22173
	Sep 94	94.98	95.02	94.96	95.02	7024
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 94	96.49	96.52	96.48	96.58	276
Previous open interest: 8314	Jun 94	96.16	96.20	96.16	96.28	297
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 94	94.48	94.51	94.46	94.50	40885
Previous open interest: 771878	Jun 94	94.95	95.00	94.92	94.99	30720
Long Gilt	Mar 94	118-21	119-26	118-18	119-24	73627
Previous open interest: 100979	Jun 94	118-31	119-01	118-31	119-02	45
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 94	118.36	118.54	118.25	118.52	1951
	Jun 94				117.46	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 94	100.85	101.20	100.71	101.17	116303
Previous open interest: 141612	Jun 94	100.73	101.08	100.73	101.12	667
German Gov Bd Bobl	Mar 94	103.45	103.56	103.43	103.57	622
Previous open interest: 11302	Jun 94					0
Three month ECU	Mar 94	94.16	94.17	94.11	94.15	2968
Previous open interest: 32813	Jun 94	94.71	94.71	94.65	94.69	692
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 94	96.24	96.25	96.20	96.24	4057
Previous open interest: 51211	Jun 94	96.50	96.53	96.48	96.53	1409
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 94	117.82	117.96	117.20	117.88	45650
Previous open interest: 80682	Jun 94	117.52	117.82	117.82	117.98	1

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 82.3 (day's range 82.0-82.3).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Jan 7	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8844-2.8913	2.8846-2.8881	¼pr-¼ds	¼pr-par
Brussels	53.52-53.75	53.62-53.72	5-9ds	16-22ds
Copenhagen	10.0300-10.0530	10.0320-10.0470	⅝-1⅜ds	1⅞-3⅛ds
Dublin	1.0400-1.0435	1.0403-1.0433	5-9ds	16-22ds
Frankfurt	2.5796-2.5865	2.5796-2.5829	⅛-¼ds	¼-⅜ds
Lisbon	262.27-263.37	262.66-263.30	94-170ds	344-430ds
Madrid	215.53-216.73	215.66-215.97	70-80ds	176-202ds
Milan	2511.20-2524.40	2520.40-2524.40	5-8ds	16-20ds
Montreal	1.9540-1.9777	1.9748-1.9777	0.30-0.26pr	0.54-0.47pr
New York	1.4828-1.4930	1.4920-1.4930	0.30-0.29pr	0.76-0.74pr
Oslo	11.1220-11.1520	11.1330-11.1490	⅝-⅛pr	⅞-⅝pr
Paris	8.7720-8.7930	8.7780-8.7930	⅞-1ds	1⅞-2⅛ds
Stockholm	12.1390-12.2190	12.1390-12.1630	1⅝-2⅞ds	4⅝-6⅛ds
Tokyo	166.45-166.95	166.68-166.95	⅝-½pr	1⅜-1⅛pr
Vienna	18.12-18.20	18.17-18.20	¼-⅜ds	⅜-1⅛ds
Zurich	2.1924-2.1977	2.1924-2.1955	⅜-¼pr	⅞-⅝pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4845-1.4871
Australia dollar	2.1699-2.1729
Bahrain dinar	0.553-0.565
Brazil cruzeiro*	516.53-518.08
Cyprus pound	0.767-0.777
Finland marka	*8.507-8.623*
Greece drachma	368.0-375.0
Hong Kong dollar	11.4894-11.4948
India rupee	46.08-47.04
Kuwait dinar KD	0.438-0.448
Malaysia ringgit	3.9102-3.9130
Mexico peso	4.55-4.65
New Zealand dollar	2.6694-2.6737
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.4995-5.6255
Singapore dollar	2.3729-2.3752
S Africa rand (fin)	6.3061-6.3849
S Africa rand (com)	5.0538-5.0647
U A E dirham	5.3855-5.5095

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4581-1.4592
Austria	12.19-12.20
Belgium (Com)	36.07-36.11
Canada	1.3225-1.3230
Denmark	6.7444-6.7544
France	5.9012-5.9042
Germany	1.7355-1.7360
Hong Kong	7.7240-7.7250
Ireland	1.4269-1.4284
Italy	1694.0-1695.0
Japan	111.96-112.01
Malaysia	2.6275-2.6285
Netherlands	1.9404-1.9409
Norway	7.4851-7.4871
Portugal	176.55-176.70
Singapore	1.5945-1.5955
Spain	145.05-145.15
Sweden	8.1850-8.1950
Switzerland	1.4745-1.4755

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5½ Finance Hse 5½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5¼ Low 3 Week fixed: 5
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅛; 3 mth 5. Sell: 2 mth 5; 3 mth: 4[illegible]

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅛-5[illegible]	5⅛-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5-4[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	5¼-5[illegible]	5¼-5[illegible]	5¼-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]
Interbank:	5¼-5[illegible]	5¼-5[illegible]	5¼-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]

Overnight: open 5¼, close 3.

Local Authority Deps:	5¼	n/a	5[illegible]	5¼	5¼
Sterling CDs:	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	3.11	n/a	3.19	3.33	3.66
Building Society CDs:	5⅛-5[illegible]	5⅛-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]

TREASURY BILLS: Applics: £923m allotted: £200m; Bids: £98.78% received: 77%: Last week: £98.78% received: 74%; Avge rate: £4.8909% last wk £4.8934%; Next week: £200m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3[illegible]-2[illegible]	3[illegible]-2[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3½-3¼	3¼-2¾
Deutschemark:	6⅛-6¼	6⅛-5⅞	6-5⅞	5⅞-5¾	6¼-5⅞
French Franc:	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6-5⅞	7¼-6¾
Swiss Franc:	4¼-4	4[illegible]-3¾	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	4[illegible]
Yen:	2⅛-2⅛	2[illegible]-2[illegible]	2[illegible]-2[illegible]	2-1⅞	2[illegible]

PRECIOUS METALS (Rudolf Wolff & Co)

Bullion: Open $390.30-390.70 Close: $387.40-387.90 High: $391.70-392.20
Low: $385.70-386.20 Krugerrand: $386.00-388.50 (£258.50-260.50)
Sovereigns: Old $89.00-92.00 (£59.25-61.25) New $89.00-92.00 (£59.25-61.25)
Platinum: $389.75 (£262.30) **Silver:** $5.06 (£3.39S) **Palladium:** $124.75 (£83.95)

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Lyon	650	27½	49½	57½	7	21	35½
(*669)	700	5	25	33	36½	48	63½
Argyll	300	13	25½	32	6½	16½	25
(*305)	330	1½	12½	18½	27½	34½	42½
ASDA	60	4	8	10½	2½	5½	7
(*62)	70	1	4	5	9½	12	13½
Boots	550	36	51	61	3	13½	22½
(*581)	600	5½	23	33½	24½	39½	47½
Br Airways	*460*	26½	43	53	4½	16½	26½
(*481½)	500	7	23	33½	25½	36	47½
BP	360	19	29	36½	4	13	19½
(*372½)	390	4	14½	22½	21	29	34½
Br Steel	120	9½	15	19½	1½	6	9½
(*127½)	130	4	9	14	6	11	14
C & W	500	17½	35½	40½	10½	23	32½
(*505½)	525	7	24	36½	25½	36½	46½
CU	650	36	47	60	4	18½	25½
(*677½)	700	8	21	34	28	47	52
ICI	750	51½	66	79½	3	27	34
(*795)	800	15½	36½	53	19	51½	59½
Kingfshr	700	36	57	69½	8	22	32
(*728½)	750	7	35	44	31½	45½	58
Land Sec	750	27½	47	56	5	16½	29
(*770)	800	3½	21	29½	34½	42	56
M & S	420	34½	44½	49½	1½	7	13½
(*452)	460	7	20	26	14½	24	30½
Nat West	600	23½	37	50½	7½	27	35
(*614)	650	3½	15½	28½	40	59	65
Sainsbury	460	12	31½	40½	9½	22	31
(*463½)	500	1½	14	23½	39	46	55½
Shell	700	47	55½	65½	2	13½	20½
(*742½)	750	10½	24	38½	16	37½	44½
Smkl Bch	390	16½	32½	44	10½	23½	31½
(*395)	420	5	20½	31½	30	41	49
Storehse	240	11½	20½	26½	4½	10½	15½
(*246½)	260	2½	11	16½	16½	22	26½
Trafalgar	110	7	13½	18	5	11	15½
(*112)	120	3	9	14	11½	16½	21½
Unilever	1200	30	59	78½	13	42	53
(*1215)	1250	7½	35½	55	42	70	81½
Zeneca	800	68½	83½	96½	3	21½	32½
(*862½)	850	29½	51	67½	13½	43½	55½

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	460	29	38	47½	11½	19	25
(*483)	500	8½	19	28	34½	41½	46½
Ladbroke	180	—	—	32½	6½	13½	19½
(*194)	200	11	17	23	15½	26	30½
Utd Bisc	360	34	38	44½	5	14	19½
(*385½)	390	14	21	28½	17	29½	35½

	Series	Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	1050	34½	66	86	10½	30½	47
(*1070½)	1100	9½	40½	59½	37	56	71
Thames W	550	32½	46	54½	3½	14	27
(*575)	600	4	18½	29	29	36½	55

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	550	29½	37½	46	13	28½	36
(*562½)	600	7½	17	24	44½	60½	67½
BTR	330	32	36½	43	4	10½	14½
(*355½)	360	12½	18½	26½	15	23	28
Br Aero	420	35	51	63½	13	29	38
(*438½)	460	16	31½	44½	37½	51½	60½
Br Telcm	460	25	35	43	6½	12	19½
(*474)	500	6	14½	22½	29½	33½	40½
Cadbury	493	54½	55	—	2½	10½	—
(*540)	542	18½	25½	—	16	31	—
Guinness	460	37½	48	55½	7	18½	24½
(*488)	500	14½	25½	34½	24	39½	46
GEC	300	32½	38½	42½	2	5½	9½
(*327½)	330	11	18½	23½	11½	16½	23
Hanson	260	21	24	27	2½	6½	10
(*277)	280	8	12	16	10	15½	19½
LASMO	120	14	23	25	7½	13	16½
(*127½)	130	10½	17	24	13	17½	22½
Lucas	180	32	33	37½	2	5½	8½
(*205)	200	14	19½	25½	7	13½	17
Pilkingtn	190	9½	15½	21	8½	14	17
(*180)	200	3	7½	12½	23	26½	29½
Prudential	360	30	34	39½	4	12	16
(*382)	390	12	17	24	16½	28	31½
Redland	600	28	43	50½	17½	38	45½
(*609½)	650	10½	21½	29½	48½	70	76
Royal Ins	317	32½	—	—	6	—	—
(*342½)	346	15	—	—	16½	—	—
Tesco	220	20	26	30½	5	12	14
(*234)	240	8	14	20½	13½	22½	25
Vodafone	600	38½	61½	77	22	36½	50
(*614)	650	16	37½	54	51½	64½	76½
Williams	390	18	26½	33	11	22	26½
(*394½)	420	6	13	20½	30	40½	44½

FT-SE INDEX (*3444½)

	3300	3350	3400	3450	3500	3550
Calls						
Jan	162	115	71	39	—	7
Feb	181	140	104	74	50	32
Mar	197	159	124	94	69	48
Apr	210	173	141	111	88	66
Jun	237	—	172	—	119	—
Puts						
Jan	6	10	20	40	70	112
Feb	19	28	42	63	89	122
Mar	34	46	61	81	107	137
Apr	47	59	78	98	125	154
Jun	71	—	105	—	151	—

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat	460	43	49½	57½	11½	18	24½
(*490½)	500	18½	28½	37½	31	37½	44
Amstrad	40	7½	9	11½	3	4	5½
(*44)	45	4½	6½	8½	5	6½	9
Barclays	600	41½	51	62½	22½	29	39½
(*618½)	650	16½	28	39½	50½	57	66
Blue Circ	330	28½	34	43	13	23½	30½
(*341½)	360	14	20½	29	30	41½	48
Br Gas	330	35½	40½	44	4	9½	13
(*357½)	360	15½	21	26	14½	23½	27
Dixons	240	19	26	30	13½	18	25
(*244)	260	11	17½	21½	25½	25½	37
Forte	260	17½	23	28½	13	19½	24
(*263½)	280	9	14	19½	25	32	36
Hillsdwn	160	22½	24½	28½	4	8½	11
(*175½)	180	10½	13	16	12½	20½	21
Lonrho	140	17	22	27½	7½	12	15
(*149½)	160	8	13	18½	18½	24	27
Sears	120	11	15½	17½	4	7½	9½
(*125)	130	5½	9½	12½	9	14	15½
Thrn Emi	1000	91	105	118½	15½	27½	45½
(*1052½)	1050	48½	72½	58	34½	48	67
Tomkins	260	15½	22½	27	12½	16½	22
(*262)	280	7½	13½	18½	25½	29	33½
TSB	240	24½	29½	37½	8	13½	17
(*253½)	260	14	19	25	19	23½	27½
Wellcome	650	68	82	101½	22	37	45½
(*668½)	700	40	58½	76	45	67½	70½

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	650	52½	71½	82½	37	51½	66
(*663)	700	30	49½	61	66½	79½	96
HSBC	900	67	87	100½	48½	64½	73½
(*920½)	950	45	63½	77½	77½	91½	100
Reuter	1850	106½	154½	179½	85	108	126
(*1864)	1900	81	128½	153	112	135	150

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
R-Royce	156	19	—	—	3	—	—
(*170)	176	7½	—	—	12½	—	—

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	140	17	25	31½	15	20	25
(*141½)	160	9	17½	23	27½	33½	37

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
Eastrn Elc	650	27½	43	53	17	25	38
(*664½)	700	7	21	30	49½	54½	67½

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	37	47	54	12½	20½	27
(*480½)	500	16	29½	34½	32½	41½	48
Scot Pwr	460	26½	38	47	16½	24	31½
(*469½)	500	10	19½	26	42	47	54

January 7, 1994 Tot: 53786 Calls: 33993 Puts: 19793 FT-SE Calls: 6934 Puts: 6156
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

COMMODITIES REPORT: Cocoa and coffee ended in the minus column although cocoa closed with trimmed losses. Coffee's losses were a result of a change in direction. White sugar prices headed lower in line with New York after trading 522 lots near the close. Wheat futures firmed as heavy rains across southern England flooded large areas of farmland which may cause farmers to replant their winter crop.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	888-887	May	974-971
May	906-905	Jul	982-980
Jul	920-919	Sep	991-990
Sep	934-932	Dec	1008-995
Dec	950-948		
Mar	964-962		Volume: 6233

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	1190-1178	Sep	1186-1185
Mar	1195-1194	Nov	1189-1184
May	1193-1192	Jan	1189-1184
Jul	1188-1187		Volume: 2465

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR (6.00pm)

		Oct	11.15-11.25
Spot: 267.5		Jan	11.00-11.25
Mar	10.78-10.88	Mar	10.80-11.20
May	11.12-11.28	May	10.85-11.25
Jul	11.35-11.45		Volume: 50

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	283.4-82.0
Spot: 287.5		Dec	282.9-80.5
Mar	286.5-86.0	Mar	283.9-82.0
May	288.5-88.0	May	286.8-83.5
Aug	292.9-91.6		Volume: 510

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 7

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	62.43	102.49	120.54
(+/-)	n/a	+9.65	+2.17
Eng/Wales:	62.43	102.06	120.29
(+/-)	n/a	+8.84	+2.26
(%)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Scotland	n/a	104.64	122.65
(+/-)	n/a	+13.19	+0.97
(%)	n/a	-40.4	n/a

LONDON MEAT FUTURES

Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq	—	Mar	unq	—
Sep	unq	—			Volume: 0

GNI LONDON *GRAIN FUTURES*

WHEAT (close £/t)

Jan	99.35
Mar	100.65
May	101.75
Jun	102.00
Sep	91.40
	Volume: 336

BARLEY (close £/t)

Jan	103.05
Mar	105.70
May	106.75
Sep	94.75
Nov	96.40
	Volume: 28

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	—
Dec	—
Feb	—
Apr	—
	Volume: 0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Mar	127.5	145.0
Apr	107.0	108.2
May	126.0	127.5
		Volume: 74

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Feb 61.00-61.50

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): Although prices had rallied during the week, the momentum eased towards the close.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	14.55	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Jan)	14.70	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Feb)	14.30	-0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	15.40	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	15.60	-0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	143 (n/c)	145 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	147 (-1)	148 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Jan	150 (-1)	152 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Feb	151 (-1)	153 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	55 (-1)	57 (n/c)
Naphtha	132 (-1)	134 (-1)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Jan	145.75-46.00	Apr	146.25-46.50
Feb	146.25-46.50	May	146.50-46.75
Mar	146.75-47.00	Jun	147.00-47.50
			Vol: 16675

BRENT (6.00pm)

Feb	14.32-14.34	May	14.65-14.69
Mar	14.32-14.34	Jun	14.83-14.84
Apr	*14.47-14.51*		*Vol: 33779*

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Jan	139.00-49.00	Apr	153.00-65.00
Feb	134.00-50.50	May	158.00-67.00
Mar	134.00 BID		Vol: 0

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 94	1237	1225	1237
Feb 94	1270	1260	1270
Mar 94	1285	1285	1283
Apr 94	1308	1292	1305

Vol: 133 lots. Open int'st: 2326 Index 1213 same

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1723.0-1723.5	1740.0-1741.0	1458625
Lead ($/tonne)	455.00-455.50	468.00-468.50	99200
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	969.00-969.50	988.00-988.50	676900
Tin ($/tonne)	4715.0-4720.0	4760.0-4765.0	26190
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1132.0-1132.5	1146.5-1147.0	1748775
Nickel ($/tonne)	5206.0-5207.0	5265.0-5270.0	118104

Postal account fails to deliver

Opening a C&G account should be easy. Robin Young tells of some unexpected difficulties

Press reports of building society postal accounts repeatedly reassure investors distrustful of dealing by post that few administrative problems arise. My wife distrusts the post.

The Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, though, was first in the postal account field with its London Share Account. It offers a facility of dealing by telephone, and, in addition, the C&G is regularly publicised as having proved itself the most efficient of building societies.

It must, then, have been Murphy's Law that dictated that when I prevailed upon my wife to open a C&G London Share Account, every conceivable thing should have gone wrong. She sent her completed application form with a tax assessment, as proof of identity, and a cheque for £6,000.

> It must have been Murphy's law that dictated that every conceivable thing should have gone wrong

C&G By Post wrote back to say that no proof of identity had been sent and that an account could not, therefore, be opened.

We sent a household electricity bill, and asked what had happened to the tax assessment. Before that letter could have arrived, C&G By Post sent us a transaction advice showing a credit to my wife's supposedly unopened account of £11.00.

Understandably confused, my wife telephoned. She was told that queries could not be answered that day because the computers were down. Could she call back? When might the computers be up again? "Er . . . perhaps tomorrow." Fearful that she had inadvertently drawn a cheque for £11,500 instead of £6,000, and that she would overdraw her bank account, my wife stopped her cheque.

Next day, I telephoned C&G By Post. I was told that the computer now showed two cheques had been paid into her account, one for £6,000 and another for £5,500.

On November 24, C&G By Post wrote to complain that the balance on the account had been reduced to nil because the cheque for £6,000 had been returned unpaid. The letter said that a pre-paid envelope was enclosed for reply. It was not. Two days later they wrote again — this time to say announce that they were pleased to confirm the account had now been opened. A transaction advice had been sent under separate cover.

Three days later, C&G By Post wrote again — this time to admit that the transaction advice had been wrong, and to offer "sincere apologies for the inconvenience and confusion caused". The writer added: "I trust you will accept our assurance that this represents an isolated incident."

C&G did not offer to refund loss of interest, the cost of stopping the cheque, the telephone calls, or even the postage to make up for their missing envelope. We never did hear where my wife's tax assessment got to.

I am now trying to persuade my wife to have another go — with the Bradford & Bingley.

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Taking account of effect of inflation

From Mr R. W. Blackmore

Sir, Perhaps the seasonal greetings Ronald Riggs received from National Savings (December 18) are more in keeping than he thinks. I am of the opinion that the belief that low interest rates have appreciably reduced available incomes from investments is not justified.

I believe that rates relatively closely track inflation, and should the investor wish to keep the value of invested capital, due account should be taken of inflation's effect. To many small investors, this would not result in a high enough income, and the tendency is to use the total interest "earned". Thus at a time of high inflation, the value of the capital is being appreciably eroded and, the question should be asked as to why the capital should not be eroded by a withdrawal in a period of low interest/low inflation. As a result, there can be a numerical difference, but not a difference in value.

Similarly in high inflation, the value of the income is appreciably reduced and most likely some withdrawal becomes necessary to maintain its value. Such basic calculations, assuming that the withdrawn income is continually increased to maintain its value, suggest the capital lasts a similar period in a low interest/inflation regime as it does in a high interest/ inflation one for the same income.

The basic criteria for determining the available income is how long the capital is required to last and not the prevailing interest rate.

Yours faithfully,
R. W. BLACKMORE,
9 Fairlea, Maidenhead.

Taxman sheds no light on impact of married allowance rate cut

From Mr J. E. Rednall

Sir, I read with interest Mr C. G. Cox's letter (January 1) about the limitation of the married couples allowance to the 20 per cent rate since I had on the previous day asked my local Inland Revenue office how this would in practice be applied.

Their reply was less helpful than that of Peat Marwick to Mr Cox's letter. They said that they had not yet received instructions on how the limitation was to be applied and suggested that I should telephone again in two months' time.

It is surely most unsatisfactory that, more than nine months after the then Chancellor announced his intention to make this change with effect from April 1994, the Inland Revenue still cannot tell affected taxpayers how they can work out how much extra tax they will have to pay as a result. So much for the Taxpayer's Charter.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. REDNALL,
The Senge House,
Farm Lane,
Ditchling, East Sussex.



CGT ALLOWANCE, NOVEMBER 1993

The indexed rise for calculating the indexation allowance on assets disposed of in November 1993.

Month purchased	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
January	—	0.714	0.631	0.553	0.471	0.416
February	—	0.707	0.624	0.540	0.468	0.410
March	0.782	0.704	0.619	0.526	0.464	0.408
April	0.747	0.680	0.597	0.494	0.450	0.391
May	0.735	0.673	0.591	0.487	0.447	0.390
June	0.730	0.669	0.587	0.484	0.448	0.390
July	0.729	0.660	0.589	0.487	0.452	0.391
August	0.729	0.653	0.574	0.483	0.448	0.387
September	0.730	0.645	0.571	0.484	0.440	0.383
October	0.721	0.640	0.562	0.481	0.438	0.376
November	0.713	0.634	0.557	0.476	0.426	0.369
December	0.716	0.630	0.558	0.474	0.421	0.371
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
January	0.371	0.276	0.185	0.088	0.044	0.027
February	0.365	0.267	0.178	0.082	0.039	0.030
March	0.360	0.261	0.166	0.078	0.036	0.017
April	0.338	0.239	0.132	0.064	0.020	0.007
May	0.333	0.231	0.122	0.061	0.017	0.004
June	0.328	0.227	0.118	0.056	0.017	0.004
July	0.327	0.226	0.117	0.058	0.020	0.006
August	0.312	0.223	0.105	0.056	0.019	0.002
September	0.306	0.214	0.095	0.052	0.016	-NIL-
October	0.293	0.205	0.087	0.048	0.012	-NIL-
November	0.287	0.195	0.089	0.044	0.014	—
December	0.284	0.192	0.090	0.043	0.017	—

The RI month for disposals by individuals on or after April 6, 1985 (April 1, 1985 for companies) is the month in which the allowable expenditure was incurred, or March 1982 where the expenditure was incurred before that month.

	Notice	Contact
BANKS		
Ordinary Dep A/c: Typical	7 day	——
Fixed Term Deposit: Barclays	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	1 mth	Local Branch
"	6 mth	Local Branch
Midland	1 mth	0742 528655
"	3 mth	0742 528655
NatWest	1 mth	071-726 1000
"	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS		
Bank of Scotland MMC	none	031-442 77.7
Barclays Prime a/c	none	0800 252881
Co-operative Ultra	none	071 626 6543
Citibank	none	0800 555584
Lloyds HICA	none	0272 433372
Midland HICA	none	0742 528655
Abbey National HICA	Local Branch	
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	none	031-556 8555
TSB Bank Intst Cheque Acct	none	071-600 6020
BUILDING SOCIETIES		
Ordinary Share A/c	none	——
Best buy — largest SOCS:		
Britannia	Postal	——
Britannia	30 day	——
Northern Rock	90 day	——
Woolwich	1 year	——
Alliance & Leics		
Best buy — all SOCS:		
Skipton	Postal	——
Northern Rock	30 day	——
The Nottingham	60 day	——
Chorley & Dist	90 day	——
Alliance & Leics	1 year	——
NATIONAL SAVINGS		
Ordinary A/c†	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c*	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	3 mth	0253 755151
7th Index Linkd*	6 day	091-386 4900
41th Issue Cert*	6 day	091-386 4900
Yearly Plan†	14 day	091-386 4900
Children's Bond		
Gen Ext Rate†	6 days	041-649-4555
Capital Bond*		
1st Option Bond*		
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS		
Consolidated Lf	1 yrs	Figures from Chase de Vere 071 404 5768 for details
Prosperity Life	2 yrs	
Financial Ass	3 yrs	
Financial Ass	4 yrs	
Eaville	5 yrs	

RATES		**HOLIDAY RATES**	£ buys
RPI (Nov 92-93)	+1.4%	Spanish Pesetas:	209.00
Bank Base Rate	5.5%	French Francs:	8.51
Personal Loan	25%	Greek Drachma:	368.00
Credit Card	25 - 27%	Italian Lire:	2470.00

TESSA	CAR (%)	£3,000 val 1 year on	Transfer penalty	Minimum investment	Telephone number
Stagshead	7.80	£3,234.00	£25	£1	0509 503302
Hinkley & Rug	7.76	£3,232.50	90 days loss	£25	0455 251234
Dudley	7.57	£3,227.10	Reverts share A/C	£1	0384 23141
Dunfermline	7.55	£3,226.50	1 mths notice/loss	£3,000	0383 721621
West Bromwich	7.50	£3,225.00	£25	£150	021 5257070

* 2.5% for holders below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less † Additional privilege up to £20,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates ‡ Yearly *Interest taxable paid gross at higher rates for larger sums § Guaranteed over the rate of inflation ¶ 3% net bonus for amounts £20,000+

Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyline - call 071 404 5768 for further details

Compiled by LUCY DUPUIS

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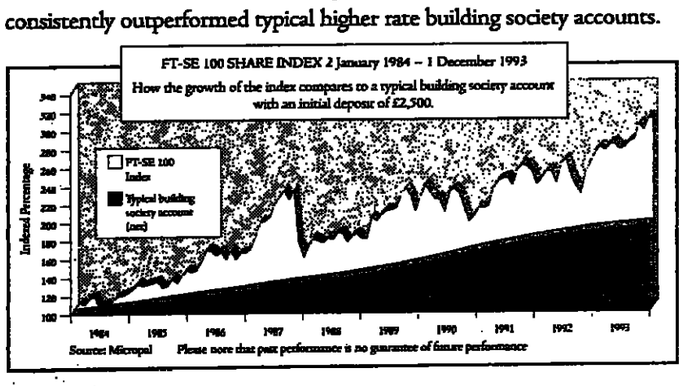
150% RETURN
ON GROWTH OF THE FT-SE 100 INDEX, WITH NO RISK TO YOUR CAPITAL.*

Our First Issue Stockmarket Bond gives you a new opportunity for investment without putting any capital at risk.

150% of any percentage increase in the FT-SE 100 Index.

The Bond is linked to the performance of the FT-SE 100 Index over a fixed 5-year period.

Since it started in 1984, the growth of the FT-SE 100 Index has consistently outperformed typical higher rate building society accounts.



So as you can appreciate, the Bond has the potential for an excellent return.

In addition, you have the security of knowing that you are guaranteed to get back your full investment, no matter how the FT-SE 100 performs.

At the end of the fixed 5-year term, your return will equal 150% of any percentage increase of the FT-SE 100 Index.

So if, for example, the FT-SE 100 Index grows by 40% over the term, an investment of £10,000 would earn £6,000 interest.* This may be subject to the deduction of income tax.

However, should the FT-SE 100 Index fall, we guarantee to return your capital in full, provided you have held the Bond for the full 5 years.

Even if the stockmarket dips on the day the Bond matures, you would still be protected, because your return is based on the average level of the FT-SE 100 Index during the last 3 months of the 5 years.

Offer closes 31 January 1994, at the latest. Limited Issue.

As you would expect of such an attractive offer, only a limited value of funds can be accepted for investment.

You may invest from £1,000 to £50,000 per application, but once the Bond is fully subscribed, the offer will close.

Details are only available from Lloyds Bank Treasury Direct, which links investors with the expertise of Lloyds Bank's own investment strategists in the City.

To give yourself sufficient time to study the potential benefits of the Bond, please make contact right away.

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Title Forenames
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THE THOROUGHBRED BANK.

*Please note that any return, over and above your original investment, will depend entirely on the performance of the FT-SE 100 Index. There can be no guarantee as to any percentage growth of the FT-SE 100 Index.
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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 51 Belmont Rd, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 1RZ 0895 259 783				
Grofund Amer	168.60	177.50	-1.20	...
Grofund Equity	251.80	266.50	-0.90	1.47
Grofund Euro	202.30	212.90	-1.20	...
Grofund Expt Bal	123.60	128.10	...	1.22
Grofund Gilt	82.30	84.94	-0.68	4.28
Grofund Japan	159.70	168.20	+3.60	...
AAA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS Equity & Law Hse, Corpn St, Coventry 0203 553 231				
General Acc	549.00	584.10	+5.50	2.07
General Inc	494.60	526.20	+4.90	2.07
UK Growth Acc	375.30	399.30	+5.60	2.22
UK Growth Inc	262.90	279.60	+3.80	2.22
Higher Inc Acc	705.60	750.70	+15.60	3.12
Higher Inc Inc	422.00	449.00	+9.40	3.12
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	195.70	208.60	-1.80	5.41
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	100.10	106.70	-0.80	5.41
Nth America	263.10	279.90	+3.50	...
Far East	354.60	377.30	-8.00	...
Europe	271.50	288.90	+2.00	0.54
Brit Excell	75.68	80.52	+0.04	2.32
Brit Fndmtls Acc	105.70	113.60	+2.20	3.92
Brit Fndmtls Inc	81.04	86.22	+1.67	3.92
Global Opps	86.65	92.19	+1.91	...
Balanced Acc	56.40	60.01	+0.60	2.11
Balanced Inc	55.90	59.47	+0.59	2.11
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth 0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	141.20	149.70	-1.40	5.34
High Inc Equity	175.00	186.10	-0.80	4.23
Worldwide Bond	273.40	289.90	-1.40	3.62
Capital Growth				
American Growth	310.90	332.50	+1.60	.95
Asian Pacific	408.80	434.80	-6.70	.21
Assets & Earnings	270.70	287.90	+1.40	1.89
Cmdty & Energy	128.80	137.70	+2.60	.40
1992 Enterprise	94.62	101.10	-0.90	1.90
Euro Capital Inc	128.30	137.20	-0.30	.71
General	240.90	256.30	+1.00	2.12
Japan	114.70	122.60	+2.30	...
Mastertrust	144.40	154.40	-0.40	1.20
UK Growth Dist	134.80	143.30	+3.00	2.00
US Emerging Cos	136.90	145.60	+3.30	...
Income & Growth	407.60	433.60	-1.00	3.03
Ethical	74.98	79.76	+1.53	2.28
International	118.90	126.40	-2.30	.40
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 14 Melville St, Edinburgh EH3 7NS 031 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	1671.0	1746.0	+24.00	...
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ 0800 833 580				
Aberdeen Portfolio	64.59	65.84	-0.62	0.76
Amer Inc & Growth	46.20	49.92	+0.42	0.64
Cash	50.20	50.20	-0.03	4.79
European	105.13	111.60	+1.90	...
European Income	97.86	103.80	-0.60	1.44
Exempt	1052.0	1101.7	-10.50	3.46
Extra Income	55.67	60.56	+0.67	4.35
Far East Emg Ecn	126.90	137.40	-4.40	0.47
Fixed Interest	25.08	26.77	+0.34	6.90
Fund Inv Tst	182.90	195.20	+1.30	0.87
Japan	182.60	194.60	+3.10	...
Latin American	77.34	82.23	+2.58	0.61
Pacific	79.01	84.62	-2.14	0.32
Property Share	74.62	79.65	-0.31	1.65
UK Emerging Cos	65.90	70.34	+0.05	1.77
UK Growth	47.55	51.18	+0.36	2.30
World Growth	78.93	83.82	-0.85	0.65
ACUMA FUND MANAGERS LTD 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex 0277 690 336				
UK Equity Income	98.79	105.10	+1.80	3.19
UK Equity Growth	87.31	92.88	+2.03	2.54
European	67.89	72.22	+0.98	1.36
Nth American	68.97	73.37	+0.65	0.99
Far Eastern	69.65	74.10	+0.44	0.27
Money	65.11	65.11	+0.04	4.36
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 031 549 3232				
British Growth	72.17	76.78	+0.79	2.28
British Income	81.70	86.91	+0.36	3.08
Select Portfolio	87.10	92.66	+0.77	...
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD 101 King's Road Brentwood CM14 4DR 0452 305 958				
Amity Income	79.76	84.63	+0.60	1.94
Income Builder Inc	71.60	76.17	+0.54	2.66
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL IFA dlg: 0793 610 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	255.80	273.40	+1.90	2.76
Capital	437.60	467.70	+6.10	1.65
Balanced	723.20	773.10	+6.10	2.21
Accumulator	1317.0	1407.0	+4.00	2.73
Income Trusts				
American Income	50.43	53.90	-0.40	3.06
High Income	450.80	481.90	+3.00	3.30
Equity Income	251.70	269.00	+1.70	3.25
High Yield	277.30	296.80	-1.40	3.14
Govt Securities	35.96	37.95	-0.51	4.82
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	137.90	147.40	+1.10	0.29
European Growth	33.61	35.71	-0.36	0.42
International	162.10	173.00	-1.40	0.34
Japan	188.30	200.80	-3.70	0.01
Pacific	450.40	481.40	-1.10	0.11
Secs of America	434.10	462.10	-1.90	0.59
Wwide Asset Val	47.58	50.86	+0.29	0.16
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	563.10	601.90	+2.10	2.08
Conv & Gilt	51.28	54.81	+0.31	3.67
Smaller Cos	175.60	187.70	-1.00	1.16
2nd Smaller Cos	167.80	179.30	-1.80	1.14
Recovery	147.10	157.20	+2.70	1.85
Met Min & Cdty	165.40	176.80	+5.40	0.71
Oseas Earnings	365.30	390.40	+5.10	2.06
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Manor Royal, Crawley RH10 2QP 0293 526 911				
Cntrctd Out Pens	106.30	109.30	+3.80	1.45
Foundtn Persl Pens	67.91	70.55	+2.19	4.00
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD 28 St John's Sq, London EC1M 4AE 071 251 6767				
Capital	76.52	81.40	-1.03	1.90
International	63.72	67.78	-0.05	0.50
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD 1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh EH3 8EY 031 222 4242				
America	308.60	332.10	-1.00	...
Bond	128.80	135.40	-3.80	5.81
Brit Smlr Cos	100.50	106.90	+1.90	0.95
Conv & Gen	65.61	70.02	+1.32	4.97
Energy	457.60	497.00	-13.90	0.24
Europe	222.70	236.60	...	0.50
Euro Smlr Cos	97.77	103.60	-1.50	0.93
Income Gwth	364.00	388.50	+6.10	3.95
Japan	307.80	327.40	+7.30	...
Pacific	124.30	132.20	-7.90	0.63
UK Smllr Cos	50.21	53.41	+0.95	0.88
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD 36 Queen St, London EC4R 1BN 071 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	303.00	318.90	-0.30	1.15
Capital Gwth	123.00	129.50	+1.00	2.08
Wwide Opps	209.00	220.00	+3.10	0.44
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD 11 Broadway, Stratford E15 4BJ 081 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bstl Inv Fd Inc	366.50	381.80	-3.80	2.42
European Bd Inc	101.60	105.20	-0.40	7.06
Exempt	80.84	86.33	+0.10	3.65
Financial	78.65	84.11	-0.14	2.04
500.00	467.90	499.10	+8.00	2.25
General	288.80	308.90	-0.50	2.18
Property	245.20	262.20	-0.30	5.65
Trustee	195.90	209.50	...	1.83
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.10	100.10	+0.10	4.82
Extra Income	124.90	133.50	-1.20	3.84
Gilt & Fxd Int	63.70	65.83	-0.56	7.57
Income	575.00	615.00	+8.60	3.74
Income Builder	70.47	74.97	+0.42	4.41
Intl Income	70.46	74.96	+0.15	2.77
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	123.70	131.90	-2.10	2.28
Leisure	122.60	131.10	-1.90	1.30
Recovery	429.40	459.20	+5.10	2.30
Smllr Cos Inc	42.11	45.16	+0.88	1.95
Special Sits	290.30	310.50	+4.70	1.77
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	136.00	144.30	-0.40	0.15
Aust Acc	259.00	275.50	+5.40	1.37
Aust Inc	162.10	172.50	+3.40	1.37
Euro Gwth Inc	142.20	150.80	-1.50	0.41
Japan & Gen Inc	169.40	179.30	+2.50	...
Japan Spec Sits	73.06	77.40	-0.83	...
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ 081 658 9002				
American Growth	101.00	107.10	-0.10	...
Amer Smllr Cos	134.60	144.20	+0.70	...
Cash Trust	50.39	50.39	-0.04	4.90
Convertibles	60.43	64.67	+0.74	5.60
Eastern	318.00	343.40	-15.10	1.60
Equity Income	96.73	102.90	-1.20	5.00
European Growth	294.90	313.40	-0.80	1.50
Europe	208.50	222.30	-5.50	1.50
German Growth	74.18	79.02	-1.93	0.70
Global Bond	71.60	75.60	-0.32	5.30
Global Growth	131.90	140.80	-1.00	...
Japan Growth	197.80	212.40	+4.90	...
Japan Sunrise	172.00	183.40	+4.00	...
Korea Trust	70.49	75.33	+2.92	...
Portfolio	140.60	150.20	-1.20	3.20
UK Growth	96.92	103.10	+1.00	2.80
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 26-34 Old Street, London EC1V 9HL 071 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	79.48	84.55	+1.11	...
Special Oppor Inc	54.28	57.74	...	...
BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD 5 Giltspur St, London EC1A 9DE 071 236 6441				
Special Sits	179.50	192.00	+3.60	0.49
Dividend	86.46	92.47	-0.08	4.13
Int Gth & Inc	230.20	246.20	-6.70	2.66
UK & Gen	47.58	50.89	-0.47	1.27
Fund of Funds	68.30	73.05	+0.44	...
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD 50 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR 041 223 6028				
Balanced Growth	113.34	121.21	+1.85	1.27
Smaller Cos	102.16	109.26	+2.02	0.97
Higher Yield	47.22	50.51	+0.87	2.43
American Gth Inc	72.51	77.55	+1.09	...
European Growth	130.03	139.07	+2.75	...
Global Bond Inc	31.70	33.63	-0.23	4.44
Mngd Pfolio Inc	44.14	47.20	+0.75	1.02
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL 071 480 7236				
Short Dated Gilt	70.20	71.15	-0.25	4.90
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH 061 837 5060				
Environ	154.80	164.70	+1.30	1.29
UK Growth	173.90	185.00	+0.10	1.67
UK Income	144.50	153.80	+1.40	3.60
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD High St, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 651 122				
Can Gen Dist	196.30	208.10	+0.60	1.74
-do- Income Dist	118.60	125.90	+1.50	4.24
Gilt & Fxd Int	45.77	48.52	-0.45	5.61
For Cannon see Lincoln National				
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD 35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF 061 236 5685 Enq: 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 5362				
American & Gen	151.70	161.40	+0.70	...
European Inc	78.37	82.96	+0.22	0.53
Far East & Gen	65.98	70.20	+1.83	...
Smaller Cos (+1)	79.47	84.55	+1.45	1.54
Growth	443.90	474.80	+6.30	1.93
Income & Growth	447.70	476.30	+7.80	3.12
Master Portfolio	1108.7	1151.0	+73.00	1.70

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS Capital House, Festival Square, Edinburgh 031 228 4477 Dealing: 0800 833 561				
American Gwth Tst	38.02	40.66	+0.06	0.90
Cash Income	50.26	50.26	-0.03	5.30
European Gwth	39.51	42.13	-0.07	0.63
Income & Gwth Inc	30.07	32.16	+0.36	3.85
Intnl Gwth	31.66	33.86	+0.04	0.76
Japan Gwth	24.99	26.72	+0.58	...
Managed Tst Inc	51.32	54.88	-0.76	0.48
Oriental Opps Inc	169.10	180.80	-13.00	0.54
Property Shares	45.55	48.71	+1.72	1.67
Smaller Cos	32.17	34.40	+0.63	1.54
UK Growth Tst	27.24	29.13	+0.29	2.91
Formerly Brown Shipley				
European Inc	26.33	28.16	-0.22	0.38
European Acc	27.32	29.21	-0.22	0.38
Financial	158.30	169.20	+2.00	2.40
Foundation	92.29	98.70	+0.94	2.58
German	51.50	55.07	-0.96	0.07
High Income	82.52	88.25	+0.87	5.78
Income	143.30	153.10	+2.40	3.60
Intl Growth	38.81	41.50	-0.02	0.16
Mngd Pfolio Inc	110.80	118.50	+1.30	1.56
Mngd Pfolio Acc	210.80	225.40	+2.40	1.56
Monthly Income	85.29	91.21	+1.79	3.53
North American	109.80	117.40	-2.40	0.15
Orient	149.50	159.80	-0.20	...
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH 071 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	85.02	90.94	-0.04	2.12
American Portfolio	90.85	96.87	-0.73	0.99
European Portfolio	93.51	99.87	+1.94	1.00
Japanese Portfolio	63.06	67.11	+1.67	...
Pacific Portfolio	156.43	168.21	-4.29	0.65
UK Inc & Growth	78.04	83.70	+1.34	3.58
Utility & Bond	60.66	61.40	-0.21	5.91
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD 5 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BA 071 332 5000				
UK General Tst	68.31	72.66	-1.33	2.75
Global Tst	63.86	67.93	-0.61	0.28
Recovery Tst	71.99	76.58	+0.62	1.72
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD 151 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD 071 837 7667				
Intl Growth	150.23	162.18	+3.36	...
UK Growth	109.45	118.54	-0.70	1.07
UK Income	111.05	120.94	+0.58	4.02
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	92.03	97.20	-1.16	1.72
Beck Bio-Tech	41.93	44.61	+1.47	...
Acorn Ethical Tst	164.92	173.60	+10.95	1.22
City Fin Assets	73.45	77.32	-0.23	1.59
City Fin America	81.38	85.66	+0.86	...
City Fin Intl	79.89	84.09	+2.42	0.47
City Fin Japan	154.54	162.67	+3.40	...
Friars Hse Cap	279.67	295.95	-14.72	2.21
Friars Hse Inc	210.15	222.38	-2.30	4.81
Buckley Wrld Gth	143.68	152.85	+5.35	0.65
Fairman Cap Gth	148.70	156.51	+8.45	...
-do- Inc & Gth	117.34	123.52	-0.32	1.56
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 10 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AJ 0392 412 144				
Emerging Markets	63.10	66.96	-0.54	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373 393				
American Gwth	58.35	62.91	-0.03	...
Atlas Mngd Gwth	38.28	41.16	-0.22	0.07
Dragon Growth	81.71	87.39	-4.98	0.27
Equity High Inc	88.92	94.35	+0.84	3.28
European Gwth	49.54	52.56	+0.54	0.67
Evergreen	31.07	33.23	+0.78	...
General Equity	88.61	94.02	+0.78	2.01
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.72	29.13	-0.67	7.89
Japan Growth	44.08	47.57	+0.95	...
Pedigree Gwth	52.63	55.84	+0.81	1.92
Pcd Sm Cos Inc	32.27	34.24	+0.59	0.76
Retirement Inc	28.08	30.19	+0.36	4.92
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY 0634 898 000				
Capital	68.48	73.24	+1.12	2.62
Income	65.47	70.02	+0.65	3.56
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ 081 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	175.92	187.15	+3.44	4.72
Fixed & Convertible	47.56	50.60	-0.04	5.61
Monthly Inc Plus	54.30	57.77	-0.04	7.76
Preference Share	52.15	55.48	-0.78	6.85
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	139.35	148.24	+0.10	5.54
Managed Fund	70.65	75.16	-0.22	2.68
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	42.09	44.78	-0.44	1.83
UK & General	82.25	87.50	-0.53	2.47
UK Growth	142.55	151.65	-0.80	1.59
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	183.19	194.88	-0.70	...
Far Eastern Grth	146.77	156.14	-4.75	0.27
Global Bond	88.40	93.93	-0.35	5.69
Japan Growth	111.15	118.24	+1.36	...
North Amer Grth	165.95	176.54	-2.53	...
Oriental Growth	92.34	98.23	-4.97	...
Worldwide Growth	64.16	68.26	-0.53	0.25
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744 840				
Growth Inc	60.85	64.73	-0.35	2.40
High Income	36.01	38.30	-0.10	3.90
Japan	32.80	34.89	+1.14	...
Smaller Cos Inc	31.17	33.15	+0.89	2.10
Smaller Cos	32.43	34.50	+0.83	2.10
North American	33.27	35.39	+0.46	0.50
European	36.51	38.84	+0.29	0.50
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 1NX 071 407 5966				
Consistent UT	33.39	35.77	+0.40	4.14
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD 1 King St, Manchester M60 3AH 0800 526 358				
Growth	144.00	153.20	+2.40	1.83
Income	79.50	84.58	+1.56	4.05
European	59.52	63.32	+0.42	0.77
Recovery	141.40	150.50	+5.30	1.54
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 78-80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NJ 071 283 9494				
Equity Dist	865.60	879.90	+40.50	3.45
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex 0277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	73.20	77.88	+0.33	1.60
Income	252.30	268.50	+2.00	3.14
Smaller Cos	143.10	152.20	+3.90	0.86
Inv Portfolio	80.70	85.86	-0.10	1.79
High Income Port	71.58	76.15	+0.19	3.37
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XS 071 480 0177				
Euro Small Cos	1459.5	1488.6	+21.70	...
Japan Small Cos	1055.0	1076.1	+34.70	...
UK Small Cos	1734.4	1807.7	+20.10	...
US Small Cos	1636.7	1682.5	+10.90	...
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 66 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL 071 377 8819				
Disc Inc	197.90	208.30	-2.10	2.72
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 25 Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh 031 315 2500				
European Gwth	250.50	264.80	+2.60	1.13
New Asia	243.60	262.50	-7.30	0.30
Japan Growth	114.70	121.80	+2.20	...
Jap Smllr Co	466.40	495.30	-6.30	...
Nth Amer	246.70	261.30	-2.00	0.93
Shifrd Asia Pac Mt	136.00	144.30	-6.00	0.43
UK Inc & Grth	229.90	245.30	-2.20	3.30
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	144.40	153.60	+0.50	2.24
UK High Inc Inc	162.70	173.10	+2.40	4.61
UK Pref & F I Inc	64.72	68.63	-0.51	6.42
Envrnmntl Opps	84.02	89.38	+1.18	1.37
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh 0345 040 526				
American	122.80	130.50	-0.30	0.15
Convertibles	24.37	25.89	+0.16	7.53
Equity Income	143.30	152.30	+3.00	3.28
EuroFund	45.55	48.19	+0.16	0.83
Financial	53.26	56.59	-0.53	1.42
Growth & Inc	251.20	266.90	-3.40	2.81
High Dist	169.80	180.40	+3.70	4.16
International	397.00	421.80	+0.30	0.24
Intl Income	99.12	105.80	-1.50	2.46
Latin American	51.81	55.05	+2.69	0.23
Pacific	93.51	99.35	-3.75	...
Tokyo	195.40	208.00	+6.30	...
UK Smaller Cos	236.00	250.80	+2.70	0.94
ELCON LTD Central Ct, Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0JA 0689 70538				
Elcon Trust	225.10	240.20	...	...
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU 071 373 7284				
Endurance Fd	207.60	220.90	-0.60	0.42
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QN 0296 431 480				
European	78.10	82.21	+1.06	1.61
Far Eastern	331.73	349.19	-5.83	1.19
High Income	143.99	151.57	+4.64	4.04
Intl Growth	126.24	132.88	-2.57	0.96
North American	119.15	125.42	-0.03	1.03
Pelican	125.73	132.35	+1.39	2.77
Smaller Cos	74.51	78.43	+2.08	1.93
Special Sits	95.11	100.12	+3.77	1.66
Tst of Inv Tsts	194.98	205.24	+2.22	1.86
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	203.16	214.75	+3.00	1.68
Smaller Cos Acc	356.90	371.77	+5.19	1.68
Recovery	54.99	57.28	+3.28	1.99
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 23 Cathedral Yard, Exeter EX1 1HB 0392 412 144				
Balanced	122.17	129.71	-0.85	4.43
Capital Growth	85.69	91.90	+0.66	...
Fd of Inv Tsts	47.64	50.82	+0.16	0.22
High Income	50.31	53.67	-0.75	8.25
Warrant	66.50	72.29	+0.42	...
Zero Preference	38.01	40.33	+0.03	...
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 16 West Street, Brighton BN1 2RE 0273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	76.77	81.66	...	2.33
Family Income Tst	52.83	56.19	...	5.73
Family Trust	83.27	88.58	...	1.19
United Charities	258.60	275.00	...	3.25
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161 Broker Dealings 0800 414 181				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	4.80
Stabiliser Growth Range				
Controlled Risk UK	25.33	26.68	+0.04	3.04
-do- Europe	24.58	25.90	-0.10	4.89
-do- America	23.88	25.15	-0.11	0.48
-do- Acc Japan	27.30	28.77	-0.48	0.71
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	31.91	32.20	-0.41	6.15
Intl Bond	33.28	34.71	-0.09	4.74
Income Funds				
High Income	28.99	30.40	+0.04	4.66
Income Plus	127.90	136.00	+3.40	3.82
Amer Eq Inc	48.30	51.33	-0.23	1.85
European Income	44.29	47.06	+0.38	2.40
Far East Inc	67.16	71.84	-1.79	2.23
Global Convertible	25.20	26.99	+0.47	2.12
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	74.68	79.66	-4.12	...
American	233.80	247.80	-2.40	...
Amer Spec Sits	112.30	119.50	+0.60	...
Japan Smaller Cos	36.71	39.16	+0.88	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	157.90	167.90	+3.10	...
European Opps	58.88	62.61	+0.76	...
UK Growth	89.70	95.38	+1.73	...
Growth & Inc	160.90	171.10	+1.90	2.38
Intl PEP	36.27	38.57	+0.29	...
Japan Spec Sits	81.00	86.59	+2.45	...
Japan	172.80	184.10	+4.10	...
Managed Intl	261.50	279.40	+0.10	...
Moneybuilder	51.80	55.26	+0.46	...
Recovery	43.83	46.61	+2.02	...
South E Asia	172.80	184.40	-12.20	...
Special Sits	506.90	539.00	+11.80	...
Specialist Funds				
UK Index	116.10	122.20	-0.30	2.97
UK Reverse Index	70.90	74.79	-0.01	4.95
Europe Index	117.90	124.20	...	4.42
-do- Reverse Index	64.85	68.93	-1.11	8.37
America Index	102.80	108.20	-0.60	0.82
-do- Reverse Index	93.89	99.09	-0.22	0.93
Japan Index	120.10	126.50	-5.10	0.97
-do- Reverse Index	97.01	102.50	-8.50	1.50
Cash Accum Units	103.99	103.99	+0.07	4.80
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 20 Finsbury St, Lond EC2Y 9AQ 071 814 2700				
Balanced	140.40	149.60	+1.60	2.02
Inc Pfolio	94.21	95.99	+2.16	3.33
Cap Pfolio	156.90	159.90	+1.20	0.55
General Opps	133.90	135.80	...	3.16
Growth Inc	32.80	33.43	+0.07	2.04
Private Portfolio	435.30	443.30	+1.60	1.38
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Admin, PO Box 2001, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XR Enq: 071 454 1434 Dlg: 0277 261 018				
Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	112.80	119.20	+0.70	0.33
Far Eastern	176.10	188.30	+3.00	...
High Income	23.85	25.38	-0.50	9.95
Oseas Income	100.80	107.70	-0.80	2.85
UK Growth	115.70	123.20	-0.60	0.76
UK Income	114.80	122.80	+2.30	4.89
US Smaller Cos	292.30	312.60	+5.90	...
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX 071 407 5966				
High Inc Eqty	52.66	56.02	+0.84	3.71
-do- Inv Tst Inc	79.88	84.98	+0.14	3.65
Intl Growth	74.82	79.60	-0.86	1.14
Investment Trust	93.34	99.30	-0.51	0.22
UK Smaller Cos	82.63	87.90	+1.45	1.25
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT 071 374 4100				
American Growth	55.46	59.27	-0.27	...
(Accum Units)	55.46	59.27	-0.27	...
Amer Smllr Cos	499.40	534.00	+11.00	...
(Accum Units)	510.20	545.60	+11.40	...
Capital Tst	316.20	336.30	+6.90	1.76
(Accum Units)	445.00	473.30	+9.70	1.76
Contl Smllr Cos	56.84	60.89	-1.40	0.47
(Accum Units)	59.42	63.65	-1.46	0.47
Convertible	140.50	149.40	-3.70	4.99
(Accum Units)	272.20	289.50	-7.20	4.99
Emerging Markets	89.21	95.30	+1.39	...
(Accum Units)	89.28	95.38	+1.39	...
European	117.10	124.50	+0.80	0.18
(Accum Units)	122.00	129.80	+0.80	0.18
Extra Income	347.70	369.80	+10.00	3.23
(Accum Units)	497.90	529.60	+14.30	3.23
Financial	127.40	136.50	-0.50	0.32
(Accum Units)	133.30	142.90	-0.80	0.32
Gilt Trust	72.18	74.42	-1.36	5.37
(Accum Units)	95.56	98.52	-1.78	5.37
Health Fund Inc	141.40	151.00	+3.40	...
(Accum Units)	141.40	151.00	+3.40	...
Income & Growth	208.30	221.40	+4.90	3.16
(Accum Units)	301.60	320.80	+7.30	3.16
Intl Growth	369.50	397.10	+5.90	...
(Accum Units)	410.30	441.00	+6.50	...
Japan & Gen	180.20	193.00	+1.70	...
(Accum Units)	182.00	194.90	+1.70	...
Managed Port Inc	107.90	113.50	+1.60	0.64
(Accum Units)	113.40	119.30	+1.70	0.64
Monthly Income	173.60	184.60	+3.40	3.39
Quarterly Income	57.80	61.48	+0.25	5.01
(Accum Units)	59.12	62.88	+0.26	5.01
Recovery	341.60	365.30	+6.40	0.25
(Accum Units)	401.30	429.10	+9.70	0.25
UK Growth	55.04	58.75	+0.80	2.31
(Accum Units)	55.04	58.75	+0.80	2.31
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts Dealing: 0722 411 411 Admin: 0722 411 622				
FP Equity Dist	408.28	434.34	-2.28	2.21
-do- Accum	842.23	895.99	-4.71	2.21
FP Euro Gth Dist	129.44	137.70	+0.03	0.43
-do- Accum	134.44	143.02	+0.04	0.43
FP Fixed Int Dist	146.48	154.94	-1.84	5.44
-do- Accum	253.73	268.38	-3.18	5.44
FP Intl Gth Dist	92.24	98.13	-0.40	0.43
-do- Accum	95.90	102.02	-0.42	0.43
FP Nth Amer Dist	193.77	205.26	-0.41	0.60
-do- Accum	211.70	224.26	-0.11	0.60
FP Pac Basin Dis	319.16	339.53	-6.21	0.01
-do- Accum	329.25	346.01	-6.32	0.01
Stewardship Dist	347.64	369.83	+1.09	1.64
-do- Accum	417.26	443.89	+1.29	1.64
Stwrdshp Inc Dist	75.14	79.94	-0.84	3.00
-do- Accum	94.19	100.20	+1.05	3.00
N Am Stshp Dist	101.63	108.12	+0.24	0.38
-do- Accum	107.56	114.43	+0.31	0.38
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD PO Box 237, York YO1 1LA 0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	249.60	264.00	+0.10	1.86
Cash	49.60	50.34	+0.04	4.34
Growth Portfolio	88.83	94.16	+0.06	0.32
Income Portfolio	74.14	78.40	+1.05	3.17
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Alban Gate, 14th Floor, 125 London Wall, London EC2Y 5AS 071 710 4567 Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	156.50	167.40	-3.40	...
European	517.60	553.40	+13.00	1.30
Far East & Gen	273.50	292.60	-3.60	0.26
Germany	123.60	131.40	-2.60	...
Global Assets Inc	...	...	...	...
Income Inc	154.50	165.30	+3.30	4.78
International	348.40	372.30	+9.40	0.63
Intl Income	88.29	95.81	+0.01	3.76
Japan & General	397.00	422.60	+0.80	...
Korean Securities	68.16	72.73	+3.31	0.18
Smllr Cos Div Inc	50.28	53.75	+0.89	4.18
UK Capital (Inc)	185.30	198.20	+3.50	1.77
UK Spec Sits	90.45	96.74	+2.37	0.34
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16-18 Monument St, London EC3R 8AJ 071 782 2000 Dlgs only: 0277 264 421 Investor Services: Freephone 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	53.78	57.52	+0.13	1.84
Cash Trust	131.72	131.72	+0.07	5.02
Practical Inv Inc	119.73	128.05	-0.01	3.44
UK Index	155.88	158.51	+0.51	2.73
UK Smaller Cos	114.71	122.68	-0.52	1.40
Income Funds				
Preference Share	28.34	30.31	-0.01	8.35
High Income	37.25	39.84	+0.40	4.37
UK Equity Income	150.99	161.49	-0.32	3.31
Global Bond	30.79	31.90	-0.17	4.58
International Funds				
Frontier Markets	69.67	74.51	+3.40	...
Global Inc & Gth	139.83	149.06	-0.41	1.47
Gold & Intl Res	125.16	133.86	+5.07	0.52
Global Utilities	138.90	148.25	-1.21	0.67
Overseas Funds				
American	141.08	150.74	-0.47	0.46
European	96.94	102.63	+0.51	0.88
Euro Sel Opps	123.43	131.03	+1.09	0.21
Amer Emerging	101.97	109.06	+2.49	...
Hong Kong	195.79	198.71	-15.35	0.64
Japan	217.59	231.40	+7.01	...
Pacific Growth	250.06	267.44	-13.89	...
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	218.46	218.46	+0.37	1.73
Long Term Bal	239.96	239.96	+0.86	2.04
Med Term Bal	202.66	202.66	-0.18	2.39
UK Equity	243.83	243.83	-2.83	1.39
UK Emerging Cos	140.00	140.00	+2.70	1.92
American	233.96	233.96	-1.22	1.25
Japan	124.09	124.09	+3.76	...
European	246.67	246.67	+0.56	1.00
Index Linked Gilt	176.81	176.81	-2.85	2.90
Fixed Interest	170.75	170.75	-2.07	6.07
Amer Emergng	262.44	262.44	+4.13	...
Pacific	269.35	269.35	-12.13	0.53
Emerging Mkts	207.00	207.00	+4.83	...
Index Strat Japan	134.19	134.19	...	0.27
-do- Pacific Rim	230.36	230.36	...	1.15
-do- Cont Europe	144.71	144.71	...	1.67
Index Strat USA	131.26	131.26	...	2.12
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	103.70	110.00	+0.19	...
Med Term Bal	96.45	102.60	-0.09	...
Long Term Bal	108.21	115.12	-0.42	...
UK Equity	112.71	119.97	+1.60	...
UK Emerging Cos	65.67	69.86	+1.35	...
American	108.82	115.77	-0.60	...
Japan	59.79	63.59	+1.93	...
European	103.02	109.60	+0.25	...
Fixed Interest	85.86	91.37	-0.68	...
Index Linked Gilt	78.33	83.33	-1.35	...
Deposit	76.46	81.34	+0.05	...
Broker Unit Trusts				
Berkeley Int Grth	131.21	138.12	+1.54	
Berkeley Income	118.01	124.22	+0.44	2.05
BWH Intl	141.72	149.19	+0.32	0.57
Brcliff Gth Port Inc	62.75	66.19	+0.38	2.50
-do- Inc Port Inc	61.16	64.36	-0.12	3.75
GLENFRIARS UNIT TST MGRS LTD 22 Suffolk St, London SW1Y 4HS 071 930 1333				
Inv Opportunities	144.90	152.50	+1.80	...
Higher Income	129.00	135.80	+2.50	3.01
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management Ltd 12 St James's Place, London SW1 071 493 9990				
& Intl Inc	574.16	610.81	+9.97	0.09
European Inc	143.56	152.72	+1.95	0.01
Amalgam Inc	149.35	158.08	+4.18	...
N America Inc	326.38	347.21	+6.81	...
Far East Inc	395.54	378.28	-10.26	0.29
UK Divid Inc	166.83	177.48	+0.24	0.96
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 071 378 7979 Dealing: 071 407 7988				
UK Equity Inc	89.21	93.74	-2.27	4.02
UK Small Cos	48.81	52.20	-1.33	1.10
British Growth	57.99	61.16	-0.03	2.14
American Gwth	160.92	172.11	+3.26	...
Japan Gwth	76.14	81.40	+0.49	...
Greater China	228.11	243.97	+7.38	0.95
Pacific Strategy	191.77	205.10	+3.95	0.15
European Gwth	80.59	86.19	+1.99	0.52
Intl Growth	161.24	172.45	+3.95	0.24
US Index (£)	13.766	14.504	-0.19	1.90
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	78.96	83.46	+0.55	2.15
Monthly Income	47.42	50.38	-0.90	10.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 865 0033				
UK Index (£)	12.403	12.970	-0.06	4.40
Euro Index (£)	13.054	13.672	-0.20	4.50
Japan Index (£)	9.8333	10.292	-0.12	1.85
US Index (£)	14.500	15.169	-0.18	1.50
Cash (£)	9.5682	9.6160	+0.01	5.10
UK Bear (£)	7.0961	7.4203	+0.02	4.40
European Bear (£)	7.4760	7.8234	-0.32	4.50
Japan Bear (£)	12.759	13.353	-0.62	1.95
US Bear (£)	9.1324	9.5540	-0.05	1.50
Dollar Bull (£)	15.860	16.600	-0.28	1.50
Dollar Bear (£)	6.9927	7.3123	+0.01	4.40
Gilt Bull (£)	12.047	12.592	-0.13	4.40
Gilt Bear (£)	6.9501	7.2648	-0.09	4.40
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD Mint Hse, 77 Mansell St, London E1 8AF 071 488 1212				
Small Cos	92.36	98.15	+0.65	1.32
Bridge Income	286.15	304.41	+3.92	4.90
GUARDIAN ROYAL EX UT MGRS LTD 36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE 071 538 9668				
Cash	133.90	133.90	+0.10	3.61
European	443.60	472.80	+5.90	0.12
Gilt & Fixed	140.60	149.20	-2.00	4.55
Growth Equity	345.20	368.80	+2.30	1.81
Income Trust	132.70	141.70	+1.90	2.83
International	184.80	197.40	-0.70	...
Japan Trust	117.20	125.20	+2.90	...
Nth American	276.30	295.10	-2.30	0.26
Pacific	644.90	688.90	-17.20	...
Guardhill	503.70	538.10	-4.90	1.91
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 5 Gainsford Street, London SE1 2NE 071 522 2129				
EMU Trust	116.24	120.68	+0.10	7.66
Global High Inc	120.54	125.13	-0.59	7.65
Prem Fixed Int	118.53	123.38	-2.84	7.53
Eqty & Bond Inc	110.14	117.11	+0.91	4.85

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European Growth	95.36	101.40	-0.11	0.18
Intl PEP Trust	59.57	63.33	-0.96	1.02
High Income	125.38	133.31	+1.98	3.19
Recovery	366.30	389.40	+10.90	1.40
St Vinc High Inc	138.93	141.01	-1.81	6.69
HALIFAX STANDARD TST MGT LTD PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW 0800 838 868				
Global Advtg Inc	40.79	43.34	-0.13	1.11
Income Advtg Inc	34.36	36.43	-0.08	3.25
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 390				
Model Pfolio	209.20	222.00	...	2.29
Smaller Cos	33.71	35.86	+0.16	1.53
HENDERSON UNIT TST MGMT LTD PO Box 2105, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4ET Enquiries: 0277 263 290 Dealing: 0277 234 772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	295.72	316.42	+11.15	1.36
Best of British	66.23	70.60	+0.73	2.00
UK Smaller Cos	122.28	131.45	+2.66	1.05
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth	286.18	304.78	+8.17	2.81
High Income	338.50	361.85	+7.37	3.53
Extra Income	306.93	326.79	+4.87	3.87
Pref & Gilt	50.72	54.52	-0.11	7.45
International				
International	281.03	300.14	-7.56	0.23
Global Bond	59.71	63.52	-0.39	6.15
Family of Funds	83.28	88.99	+0.48	0.29
Global Tech	149.76	159.74	+4.05	...
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	207.13	221.49	-2.80	...
European	464.81	492.28	+9.19	0.27
European Income	84.19	89.07	-0.29	2.27
Euro Smlr Cos	141.80	151.18	+2.21	0.27
Eur Sp Sits	60.83	65.18	+2.13	0.19
Japan Trust	202.42	215.62	+6.30	...
Japan Special Sits	229.77	245.22	+4.66	...
Pacific Smlr Cos	294.96	313.78	-0.35	0.05
North American	243.09	258.66	-0.03	...
American Smaller	108.87	116.36	+0.39	...
Henderson Tst Pension Portfolio				
American Growth	57.84	61.31	+0.21	...
Eur Sp Sits	52.22	55.35	+1.63	...
General Growth	44.03	46.67	+0.46	...
Global Tech	58.45	61.95	+1.57	...
Income Growth	43.01	46.12	+1.18	...
Japan Growth	24.75	26.23	+0.76	...
Overseas Growth	41.01	43.47	+1.05	...
Smaller Cos	21.49	22.77	+0.44	...
Special Opps	28.34	30.04	-0.61	...
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
British	105.10	112.40	-1.80	1.75
Capital	180.90	193.40	-0.10	1.57
Dollar	342.20	365.90	-1.20	0.01
European	235.70	252.00	-1.00	0.42
Far East	375.30	401.30	-3.50	0.20
Financial	876.80	937.70	-17.40	1.29
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	29.27	30.41	-0.38	6.78
High Yield	118.20	126.50	+2.40	3.88
Income & Growth	158.30	169.20	+2.00	2.87
International	250.50	267.90	-0.80	0.06
Japanese General	180.20	192.70	+4.60	...
Japan Tech	67.83	72.54	+2.13	...
Nat Resources	80.57	86.17	+4.28	0.41
Portfolio	77.17	82.53	+0.89	1.68
Security	345.50	369.50	-1.80	1.74
Smaller Cos	129.90	138.90	-0.70	1.26
Special Sits	159.20	170.20	-1.00	1.29
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU Dlg: 071 955 5055 Enq: 0800 181 890				
James Capel Unit Trusts Dlg: 071 955 5055 Enq: 0800 181 890				
Index Funds				
American Index	203.80	217.00	-1.20	1.21
Eurotrack 100	156.40	166.10	-0.60	0.94
Footsie Fund	56.01	59.22	-0.58	2.28
Japan Index	74.24	79.15	+1.74	0.14
Tiger Index	230.50	246.00	-15.30	0.17
Trzile Index	117.80	125.70	-1.70	1.76
UK Index	145.80	155.60	-0.60	2.66
Active Funds				
American Growth	477.90	510.00	-1.90	0.17
Capital	624.00	666.00	+0.50	2.01
European Growth	106.40	112.90	+1.50	0.29
Far East Growth	62.31	66.50	-2.47	...
Global Bond	24.40	25.72	-0.70	6.18
Hong Kong Gwth	136.30	145.40	-11.00	0.46
Income	607.20	648.00	-13.30	3.44
Intl Growth	78.93	84.10	-0.05	0.10
Japan Growth	260.60	278.10	+8.70	...
Japan Smllr Cos	32.81	34.99	+0.62	...
Spore & Mlysn Gth	87.04	92.89	-0.82	...
Midland Unit Trusts Dealing 0742 520200 Enquiries 0742 529076				
Balanced	62.62	66.97	+0.15	2.12
(Accum Units)	64.19	68.66	+0.16	2.12
British Tst	89.62	95.85	+0.82	1.77
(Accum Units)	101.40	108.40	+1.00	1.77
Extra High Inc	76.88	82.22	-0.65	5.48
(Accum Units)	140.90	150.60	+0.80	5.48
Gilt & Fxd Int	60.82	63.31	-0.60	5.88
(Accum Units)	166.60	173.50	-1.60	5.88
High Yield	248.80	266.10	+2.70	4.28
(Accum Units)	597.20	638.70	+6.50	4.28
Income	329.60	346.10	+4.40	2.65
(Accum Units)	684.10	731.60	+9.30	2.65
Japan Growth	329.00	351.90	+12.90	...
(Accum Units)	347.20	371.30	+13.60	...
Mandarin Tst	140.20	149.90	-10.20	0.58
(Accum Units)	146.60	156.70	-10.70	0.58
Money Market LT	49.51	49.51	+0.03	4.62
(Accum Units)	74.39	74.39	+0.04	4.62
Monthly Income	94.72	101.30	...	3.85
North American	182.50	195.20	-0.60	0.42
(Accum Units)	230.70	246.70	-0.70	0.42
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	105.30	112.00	+1.00	1.75
European Growth	102.60	109.20	+1.60	0.02
Gilt & Fixed	89.41	94.91	-0.86	5.85
Income	91.86	97.72	+1.30	2.70
Japan Growth	49.21	52.35	+1.90	...
Managed	69.35	73.78	+0.16	2.38
Money Market	82.53	87.49	+0.07	4.59
North American	88.30	93.94	-0.34	0.48
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	95.69	101.80	+0.90	1.74
European Growth	96.63	102.80	+1.50	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	85.22	90.46	-0.82	5.81
Income	90.26	96.02	+1.17	2.67
Japan Growth	49.13	52.27	+1.89	...
Managed	66.35	70.59	+0.15	2.35
Money Market	76.29	80.87	+0.06	4.54
North American	80.45	85.59	-0.30	0.57
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	95.92	102.10	+0.80	1.72
European Growth	94.28	100.30	+1.42	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	79.08	83.95	-0.79	5.88
Income	89.80	95.63	+1.16	2.68
Japan Growth	50.29	53.50	+1.94	...
Managed	69.75	74.20	+0.16	2.34
Money Market	71.76	76.06	+0.04	4.58
North American	89.21	94.90	-0.34	0.44
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR 071 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Investment Tst	75.60	80.32	+0.72	0.53
Smaller Cos	30.45	32.55	+0.64	1.54
Special Features	33.37	35.45	+0.38	1.41
(Accum Units)	39.77	42.25	+0.46	1.41
General Funds				
Assets & Earnings	82.50	87.65	-0.10	1.80
Accum Units	98.46	104.60	-0.20	1.80
General Equities	79.37	84.33	+1.38	2.52
Great British Cos	55.01	58.81	+0.05	1.83
Managed Invest	102.00	108.80	+0.90	0.97
PEP Managed	74.37	79.42	+0.46	1.96
Super Child Tst	87.67	93.45	-0.41	1.78
UK Growth	63.14	67.51	-0.12	1.69
High Income Funds				
Cashbox (Dist)	50.11	50.11	+0.03	3.82
Cashbox (Acc)	57.18	57.18	+0.03	3.82
Extra Income	94.62	101.00	-0.40	4.30
Gilt	30.47	32.10	-0.34	5.74
Income & Growth	45.23	48.23	+0.61	3.13
Monstar Gilt & FI	82.78	84.61	-0.61	7.10
Preference Shares	19.60	20.82	+0.14	6.12
UK Income	367.80	392.70	+2.10	2.83
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fin Securities	72.36	76.88	+0.10	0.75
Property Shares	86.44	92.95	-0.52	1.24
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	51.92	55.16	-0.28	0.83
US Smaller Cos	121.40	129.90	+2.10	...
(Accum Units)	123.70	133.30	+2.20	...
Europe Perf	143.90	152.40	+2.30	...
(Accum Units)	148.70	157.50	+2.40	...
Euro Smaller Cos	27.22	28.88	+0.65	...
French Growth	80.41	85.23	-0.05	0.01
Accum Units	85.90	91.05	-0.06	0.01
H Kong & China	108.30	115.00	-7.10	0.40
Intl Growth	57.94	61.56	-0.46	0.25
Accum Units	58.23	61.86	+0.49	0.25
Japan Perf	31.54	33.49	+0.86	...
Accum Units	31.54	33.49	+0.86	...
Japan Smaller Cos	37.51	39.85	+1.20	...
Singapore ASEAN	129.90	138.00	-1.20	...
Accum Units	130.90	139.00	-1.10	...
SE Asia	368.10	391.10	-11.40	0.03
Overseas Income Funds				
Global Income	97.06	103.50	-0.20	1.96
Intl Bond	60.40	61.23	-0.32	5.23
JUPITER MERLIN UT MGRS LTD 197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RB 071 581 3020				
American Cap	190.70	202.90	+10.40	...
Income	150.60	160.22	-1.11	3.57
Res & General	...	...	...	...
UK Growth	54.75	58.24	+0.92	0.90
International	88.25	93.99	-0.68	0.88
Ecology	85.63	91.09	+1.09	0.57
European	114.05	120.90	+2.38	...
Far Eastern	389.00	413.90	-12.20	...
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS 10 Fenchurch Street London EC3 Dealers: 071 956 7354 Admin: 071 956 6600				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	60.96	64.85	+1.01	6.01

The new Singer & Friedlander Tai Pan Fund.
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	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
(Accum Units)	84.87	90.29	+1.38	6.01
Gilt Yield	128.40	135.40	-1.30	6.55
(Accum Units)	375.20	390.00	-3.70	6.55
Global Income	240.50	255.90	-2.10	3.37
(Accum Units)	530.70	564.60	-4.90	3.37
High Yield	157.50	167.00	...	5.13
(Accum Units)	452.10	481.00	-3.10	5.13
Smllr Cos Div	58.01	61.71	+1.32	3.20
(Accum Units)	72.50	77.13	+1.66	3.20
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	98.23	104.50	+0.10	...
(Accum Units)	101.60	108.10	+0.10	...
North American	78.45	83.99	-0.75	0.30
(Accum Units)	95.79	103.00	-0.90	0.30
European Special	91.16	96.98	+0.64	1.29
(Accum Units)	95.64	101.70	+0.70	1.29
European	154.30	164.10	+0.50	1.20
(Accum Units)	202.00	214.90	+0.70	1.20
General	303.10	322.40	-0.60	2.77
(Accum Units)	497.80	529.60	-1.00	2.77
Japan	393.60	418.70	+5.90	...
(Accum Units)	397.90	423.30	+6.00	...
Japanese Special	224.20	238.50	+2.00	...
(Accum Units)	225.20	239.60	+2.10	...
Master Accum	253.60	269.80	-2.10	0.80
Pacific	357.20	380.00	-15.60	0.38
(Accum Units)	418.90	445.60	-18.30	0.38
Smaller Cos	114.00	121.30	-0.90	0.96
(Accum Units)	154.50	164.40	-1.40	0.96
UK Equity Growth	44.20	47.02	+1.15	1.49
(Accum Units)	82.26	87.51	+2.14	1.49
KNIGHT WILLIAMS PRTFOL MGRS 161 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0LA 071 629 1683				
High Income (Inc)	57.58	61.25	-1.35	4.50
Global Growth PEP	62.43	66.41	+1.17	...
Inv Trust PEP	51.40	54.68	-0.01	...
Higher Risk Invest	59.38	63.16	+0.87	...
LAS UNIT TST MGRS LTD 113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB 031 550 5851				
European	90.20	95.96	+1.22	0.61
Extra Income	27.50	29.26	-0.02	3.33
Far East	32.02	34.06	-0.97	0.27
Income & Gwth	82.66	87.94	-1.14	2.25
Intl Growth	59.57	63.37	-0.72	0.48
Japan	61.88	65.83	+1.08	...
Maximum Dist	102.10	104.10	-0.60	6.97
Nth Amer Equity	41.33	43.97	-0.24	0.18
UK Equity	98.02	104.30	-0.80	2.19
L & C UNIT TST MGMT LTD Broadwalk Hse, 5 Appold St EC2A 2DA 071 588 2800				
Income	658.90	672.30	...	4.82
Intl & General	443.20	452.30	+3.10	0.57
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 1 White Hart Yard SE1 071 407 5966				
Inc & Growth Inc	59.84	63.77	-0.42	3.92
Smaller Cos	53.56	56.68	+0.99	0.88
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD Laurentian Hse, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ Enq: 0452 371 500 Dlg: 0452 371 623				
Growth Trust	261.90	278.60	+1.50	1.62
High Income	118.80	126.40	+1.00	3.48
International	97.70	103.90	+2.90	0.30
Recovery Trust	65.93	70.14	+2.36	1.26
European Trust	80.69	85.84	+1.12	0.96
Japanese Trust	41.82	44.49	+1.53	...
American Trust	82.30	87.55	+2.55	...
Managed	69.01	73.41	+0.96	0.46
Cash	51.46	51.46	-0.03	4.57
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT 071 374 0916				
UK Cap	370.20	375.70	-2.00	2.61
UK Inc/Gth	409.40	415.50	-0.50	3.01
UK Income	289.70	294.20	+0.40	3.42
UK Sm Cos	243.30	252.40	+2.60	1.60
Euro Gwth	117.90	118.80	-1.20	0.32
N Amer Gwth	81.76	82.71	-0.12	0.15
Jap & Pac Gth	83.37	84.59	+0.15	...
Money Mkt	116.96	116.96	...	2.350
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 395				
Equity Dist	501.10	533.10	+4.10	2.26
Equity Income	107.50	114.40	+0.10	3.23
UK Tactical Alloctn	60.68	64.44	+0.39	3.21
European	113.80	121.10	-0.80	0.90
Far Eastern	246.00	261.70	-6.80	...
Fixed Interest	58.42	62.03	-0.54	5.88
Gilt	101.30	107.40	-1.30	5.38
Global Growth	80.50	85.64	-0.64	0.41
Intl Bond	57.77	61.35	-0.55	4.43
Japanese	69.14	73.55	+1.50	...
North American	155.90	165.90	...	0.34
Pacific Growth	139.40	148.30	-6.10	0.20
UK Index	66.44	70.12	+0.48	2.71
UK Recovery	94.56	100.60	+1.25	1.70
UK Smaller Cos	121.70	129.50	+2.70	1.19
US Index	60.46	63.81	-0.29	1.65
European Index	72.76	76.79	-0.04	1.41
LINCOLN NATIONAL 1 Olympic Way, Wembley HA9 0NB 081 902 8876 Dealing: 0800 282 621				
Growth	51.40	54.97	+0.31	3.04
Income	62.65	67.37	+0.31	3.49
Far East	59.13	63.24	+0.13	...
North American	101.70	109.40	+1.10	...
Global	103.50	110.70	+0.50	0.62
European	89.20	94.89	+1.78	0.82
Japan	104.50	111.80	+1.90	...
Intl Currency Bd	61.02	64.71	-0.15	5.88
SE Asia	137.10	146.60	-6.30	0.65
UK Capital Growth	96.68	103.40	+1.50	1.80
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD PO Box 63, Chatham, Kent ME4 4YB Helpdesk: 0634 834 339 Dealing: 0634 834 313				
Balanced	365.20	388.60	-0.80	2.30
-do- Acc	810.80	862.60	-1.70	2.30
Contl Euro Gth	61.64	64.89	-0.07	0.80
-do- Acc	65.66	69.12	-0.07	0.80
Extra Inc	272.30	289.70	-1.00	3.33
-do- Acc	682.50	726.10	-2.70	3.31
German Gth	122.80	129.30	-2.80	0.12
-do- Acc	128.70	135.50	-3.00	0.12
Growth Port	557.90	593.60	-5.40	0.13
-do- Acc	562.60	598.60	-5.50	0.13
Income	517.90	551.00	-4.40	3.09
-do- Acc	1351.0	1438.0	-12.00	3.09
Income Port	540.90	575.50	+2.20	3.69
-do- Acc	554.90	590.40	-2.20	3.69
Japan Growth	96.94	103.20	+3.00	...
-do- Acc	97.28	103.50	+3.00	...
Master Trust	61.07	64.97	+0.10	1.18
-do- Acc	67.22	71.52	+0.11	1.18
N American Gen	199.20	212.00	-2.40	...
-do- Acc	230.10	244.80	-2.80	...
Nam Sm Co Rec	149.50	159.10	-2.40	...
-do- Acc	152.60	162.40	-2.50	...
Pacific Basin	323.50	344.20	-15.70	0.19
-do- Acc	341.90	363.80	-16.60	0.19
Small Cos Rec	349.80	368.30	-3.70	1.96
-do- Acc	459.50	483.70	-5.00	1.96
UK Growth	90.51	96.29	-0.43	1.80
-do- Acc	107.50	114.40	-0.50	1.80
-do- Acc	499.30	531.20	-8.60	0.11
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS 0392 282 673				
American	67.23	72.14	+0.70	0.30
General	91.20	97.85	-0.15	2.40
Income	72.41	77.69	+0.75	4.60
International	66.32	71.16	+0.50	0.70
Japan	51.04	54.76	+1.40	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	73.32	78.67	+0.20	1.50
M & G SECURITIES M & G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 0245 390 390				
Amer & General	421.30	445.50	+1.00	0.69
Amer Recovery	466.90	493.70	+11.70	0.23
Amer Smllr Cos	134.10	141.80	+0.90	...
Australasian	173.60	183.60	+4.50	1.08
Capital	818.80	865.90	+11.00	1.96
Charifund	759.10	766.70	+4.40	4.76
Commodity	384.80	406.90	-9.90	0.41
Compound Grth	955.70	1010.7	+3.30	2.27
Dividend	42.60	45.10	+0.60	3.92
Equity Income	353.80	374.10	+10.70	4.62
Euro & General	488.10	516.20	+5.10	0.56
Euro Dividend	71.80	75.90	+1.00	3.37
Extra Yield	451.50	477.50	+3.00	4.06
Far Eastern	413.20	437.00	-9.50	0.21
Fund of Inv Tsts	657.90	695.70	-2.30	1.69
General	64.20	67.90	+0.70	3.47
Gilt Income	70.07	70.19	-0.91	6.36
Gold	78.90	83.40	+4.70	0.33
High Income	30.30	32.00	+0.43	4.16
Intl Growth	80.20	84.80	+0.10	0.64
International Inc	108.30	114.50	+0.40	3.99
Japan & Gen	44.20	46.70	+0.90	...
Japan Smllr Cos	147.30	155.80	+3.70	...
Managed Income	29.50	31.00	+0.30	3.65
Midland	63.50	67.10	+1.50	2.64
Pension Ex	994.80	1019.7	+10.70	3.60
Recovery	42.70	45.20	+1.10	2.12
Second General	73.20	77.40	+1.20	3.17
Smaller Cos	68.90	72.90	+1.20	2.68
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD MGM House, Heene Rd, Worthing Dealing: 0277 261 010 Enq: 0903 204 631				
European Growth	80.63	85.77	+0.95	0.13
High Income	315.70	335.80	+1.00	3.84
Intl Bond	70.26	73.88	-0.28	4.77
Intl Equity Growth	70.91	75.43	-0.18	0.36
N Amer Growth	99.26	105.59	+0.30	0.71
Special Sits Growth	22.57	24.01	+0.48	1.79
UK Growth	395.10	420.30	-0.10	2.23
MW INVESTMENT MANAGERS LTD 46 Court St, Haddington, E Lothian 062 082 5867				
Joint Investors	1351.6	1378.7	-3.70	2.56
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD c/o Baillie Gifford 1 Rutland Ct EH3 8EY 031 222 4242				
Maldon General	144.40	149.90	...	3.87
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD St George's Way, Stevenage Dealings: 0438 742 414				
Growth Units	201.70	215.70	-0.30	2.03
Gilt & Fxd Int	195.50	205.90	-2.10	6.25

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Intl Growth	211.80	226.90	+1.30	0.18
North American	183.70	197.20	+1.80	0.28
Far East	306.40	327.70	-12.40	0.24
UK Smaller Cos	165.60	177.10	+2.80	1.57
European	78.60	84.21	-0.35	0.34
Japanese Growth	42.46	45.24	+1.08	...
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD PO Box 410, Chester X CH99 9QQ 0244 680 864				
M & S Inv Pfolio	157.50	167.50	-0.30	1.84
-do- Accum	177.30	189.10	+1.00	1.84
UK Sel Pfolio	135.00	143.60	+1.70	2.02
-do- Accum	153.90	163.70	+2.00	2.02
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 57 Victoria Square, Bolton BL1 1LA 0204 364 842				
Managed Tst	70.49	74.99	-0.45	3.13
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD Saltire Crt, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh 031 479 4646				
Intl Income	79.16	84.03	+0.05	3.83
European	84.11	89.29	+0.76	0.62
Income & Growth	82.46	87.56	+0.25	2.86
Nth American	62.00	65.82	+0.25	0.07
Far East	184.60	196.00	-9.10	...
Charities	125.50	133.20	+0.20	3.65
Japan	51.91	55.11	+0.62	...
Emging Mktr	133.50	142.80	-2.60	0.12
Intl Growth	113.80	120.80	...	0.15
UK Growth	86.58	91.91	+0.42	1.71
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33 King William St EC4R 9AS Dealing: 071 280 2860				
American	208.00	221.10	+2.20	...
(Accum Units)	222.30	236.30	+2.40	...
American Opps	91.91	98.04	+1.65	...
(Accum Units)	93.07	99.27	+1.68	...
British Blue Chip	83.70	89.15	-0.34	2.83
(Accum Units)	100.70	107.20	-1.40	2.83
Cash	100.90	100.90	...	5.18
(Accum Units)	132.50	132.50	+0.10	5.18
Emerging Mkts	140.40	151.00	+3.50	...
European Growth	242.50	257.30	+1.70	0.62
(Accum Units)	261.00	276.90	+1.70	0.62
European Income	84.76	89.78	-0.35	2.71
(Accum Units)	111.00	117.60	-0.40	2.71
General	543.00	579.20	+3.80	2.09
(Accum Units)	1039	1108	+7.00	2.09
Global Bond	135.10	142.10	-1.30	5.60
(Accum Units)	155.60	163.60	-1.30	5.60
Gold & General	208.40	224.10	+13.80	0.42
(Accum Units)	213.10	229.10	+14.00	0.42
Govt Securities	102.60	105.70	-1.40	6.73
(Accum Units)	190.00	196.00	-2.30	6.73
Income	164.70	175.30	-0.20	3.89
(Accum Units)	246.30	262.10	-0.50	3.89
International	450.80	480.60	+2.00	0.58
(Accum Units)	602.00	641.80	+2.50	0.58
Japan	177.50	188.20	+3.50	...
(Accum Units)	182.30	193.30	+4.00	...
New Europe	175.30	187.00	+2.10	1.39
(Accum Units)	178.10	190.00	+2.10	1.39
Pacific	148.60	158.50	-9.10	0.53
(Accum Units)	158.00	168.50	-9.70	0.53
Recovery	332.40	354.60	+2.40	2.53
(Accum Units)	421.50	449.60	+2.90	2.53
UK Smaller Cos	59.54	63.51	+0.97	1.71
(Accum Units)	66.86	71.32	+1.09	1.71
Portfolio	85.36	90.82	-0.24	2.49
(Accum Units)	97.98	104.20	-0.30	2.49
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 662 233				
Eurogrowth Plus	114.22	121.56	+0.54	0.84
Intl Strategy	65.75	69.95	-0.19	0.65
UK Income Inc	82.80	88.09	-0.34	5.52
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
International (US$)	13.03	14.14	+0.26	...
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT Dealers: 071 826 0826 Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gwth	306.60	326.30	-0.60	...
European Gth Inc	361.90	385.20	+4.00	...
Intl Gwth	198.40	212.00	+1.60	...
UK Equity Inc	182.00	195.40	+2.70	3.44
UK Ind Trckr Inc	168.40	180.00	-0.50	2.69
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	201.40	213.50	-1.20	1.34
Japan Tracker	71.02	75.22	+1.58	...
Asian Trader	256.30	279.10	-10.00	0.34
Managed Inc	150.10	161.40	-1.00	1.59
Deposit Inc	100.20	100.30	+0.06	4.30
Europa	166.10	178.60	+6.80	...
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 7 West Nile St, Glasgow G1 2PX 0345 090 933				
Acumen	99.17	101.40	-1.20	2.13
Acumen Inc	95.46	97.60	-1.13	2.13
Acumen Reserve	90.40	91.31	-0.96	6.54
-do- Inc	82.45	83.28	-1.97	6.54
American Income	181.20	186.40	+0.80	1.35
Cash Income	49.87	50.38	+0.03	4.75
Equity Income	106.10	109.20	+0.50	4.18
European	73.36	74.62	+0.63	1.00
Smaller Cos	78.86	82.31	+2.21	1.08
Olympiad	70.52	72.62	+0.16	0.12
Global Bond	50.22	50.77	-0.20	5.78
UK Growth	94.71	97.45	-0.15	1.58
Pacific Growth	130.30	135.10	-6.30	...
Japan Growth	91.87	93.51	+1.75	...
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Avon Equity	127.07	135.18	-0.76	2.66
NM UNIT TRUST MGRS Enterprise Hse, Isambard Brunel Rd, Portsmouth Enq: 0705 882 695 Dlg: 0705 882 660				
NM Unit Trusts				
American	45.51	48.54	-0.19	1.13
Australian	346.70	371.90	+3.90	...
Conscience	73.18	78.09	+1.05	1.17
European	200.10	212.80	-0.30	0.73
Extra Income	81.98	87.49	-0.73	5.02
Gilt & FI	63.99	67.53	-0.68	5.85
Gold	64.66	69.52	+2.52	...
Income	60.13	64.13	-0.15	4.41
Intnl	33.65	35.98	-0.50	0.59
Jap Smaller Cos	310.70	331.40	+4.60	...
Sing & Malaysian	287.60	308.40	-15.40	...
Smaller Cos	29.92	32.17	+0.10	0.66
Special Sits	38.39	41.27	+0.47	1.70
Sterling Deposit	100.10	100.10	-0.90	4.75
Tokyo	77.62	82.79	+2.00	...
UK Equity	184.90	197.20	-1.80	2.12
US Smaller Cos	113.50	121.30	-0.90	...
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF 061 237 5322				
UK Growth	78.67	83.70	+1.68	1.83
UK Income	118.30	125.90	+2.00	3.15
Gilt & Fixed Int	83.81	88.69	-0.75	5.64
Higher Income	232.40	247.30	+5.10	4.24
Smaller Cos	82.64	87.97	+1.70	1.36
International	103.60	110.30	+1.20	1.39
NATIONAL PROV INV MGRS LTD 48 Gracechurch St EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200				
Americas Dist	112.60	120.40	+0.30	...
European Dist	104.56	111.83	+3.17	...
Far East Dist	184.40	197.20	-1.40	...
Global Care Dist	72.67	77.72	+1.01	1.97
Oseas Dist	1026.1	1097.4	-4.60	0.30
UK Dist	363.30	388.60	-2.40	2.33
UK Extra Inc Dist	79.89	85.44	+1.11	3.78
Wwide Dist	104.60	111.87	-0.05	...
Wwide Inc Dist	71.77	76.76	+1.48	2.13
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Dlg: 0277 690 280 Admin Enq: 0277 690 398				
Europe Inc	59.84	63.16	+0.14	0.41
Fund of Funds Inc	59.41	62.70	+0.66	0.61
North America Inc	51.66	54.52	+0.42	0.28
UK Equity Grth Inc	61.76	65.18	+1.01	1.69
UK General Inc	61.03	64.41	+0.90	1.96
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	52.75	55.54	-1.42	8.07
UK Income Inc	62.36	65.82	+1.09	2.42
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD 71 Queen Victoria St, London EC4V 4DR Dealer: 0500 440 000 Private client: 0500 550 000 Broker: 0500 660 000				
Income	240.32	255.67	+8.96	3.20
Global	358.45	381.34	+5.10	1.04
General	198.83	211.53	+1.50	1.17
Bond	134.20	142.49	-0.63	6.03
Growth	129.56	137.84	+1.16	1.55
Intrepid	119.42	124.40	...	1.70
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS PO Box 124, Surrey Street, Norwich 0603 682 234				
Master Trust	127.46	135.58	+0.15	1.19
UK Equity	149.11	158.63	+1.92	2.64
UK Equity Income	143.45	152.61	+2.59	3.30
UK Smaller Cos	122.98	130.83	+1.13	1.50
UK Equity Growth	136.81	145.54	+1.21	2.25
UK Index Trckg	148.22	157.68	-0.14	3.02
Intl Index Trckg	141.97	151.03	+0.32	1.05
International	237.36	252.51	-2.10	0.61
European	179.25	190.69	+0.29	0.69
Pan European	129.28	137.53	-0.43	1.35
Nth American	164.54	175.04	-0.25	0.54
N Amer Smlr Cos	183.85	195.58	+2.41	...
Japanese	87.08	92.64	+2.21	...
Pacific	257.72	274.17	-11.55	0.33
South East Asian	295.70	314.57	-18.76	0.70
Intl Bond	140.92	149.91	-0.10	4.62
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Pearl Centre, Lynch Wd, Peterborough PE2 6FY Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 0733 470 470				
Equity	253.20	269.30	-0.20	1.93
Growth	160.90	169.30	-0.80	2.17
Income	257.50	273.90	+0.90	2.96
Intl Equity	250.50	266.40	-0.80	0.60
UK Income	70.60	75.10	-0.52	2.57
UK Intl 25	81.64	86.85	+0.30	1.53
New Europe	72.55	77.18	-0.19	0.37
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT 48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames 0491 417 000				
Intl Gwth	610.70	653.16	-5.34	0.03
Income	367.73	393.30	+14.10	2.62
Wwide Recovery	377.42	403.66	+6.46	0.33
Amer Growth Inc	230.97	247.03	+1.90	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	259.95	278.03	+1.56	0.01
Far Estn Gth Inc	305.34	326.79	+4.12	0.01
Euro Gwth Inc	139.12	148.80	-1.81	0.67
UK Growth Inc	93.00	99.47	+3.54	2.30
High Income	100.54	107.53	+1.25	3.68
Jap Gwth Inc	201.85	214.97	+5.78	0.01
PEP Growth	122.26	130.77	+3.03	0.99
Asian Sir Mkts Inc	153.60	164.28	-7.30	0.01
Amer Smlr Co Inc	139.59	149.73	+0.85	0.01
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 30 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 6RQ Admin & dealing: Unit Trust Accounting & Mgmt Ltd, 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX 071 407 5966				
American	108.70	115.64	+2.06	...
European	67.98	72.32	+0.86	0.26
Global	70.35	74.84	+1.43	...
Pacific	71.38	75.94	+1.34	0.05
UK Inc & Grth	66.40	70.64	+0.29	1.93
POINTON YORK UT MGRS The Crescent, King St, Leicester LE1 6RX 0533 558 549				
SRI Discount Digs	103.24	109.95	+1.82	...
PORTFOLIO TRUST MGRS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX 071 407 5966				
Portfolio	164.58	167.04	+0.15	0.63
PREMIUM LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD 37 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath 0444 458 721				
Monthly Income	61.19	64.86	+1.51	2.04
Growth Income	60.76	64.40	+1.98	1.49
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 16 South Park, Sevenoaks TN13 1AN 0732 740 700				
Principal Tst	143.33	153.48	+4.63	1.84
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook EC4N 8LD Enquiries: 071 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 282 443				
American Income	100.80	107.20	-0.10	2.68
Conv & Gilt	125.00	133.00	-1.70	5.24
European Income	77.03	81.94	-0.82	2.33
Extra Income	162.10	172.50	+0.30	3.47
Far East	428.00	455.30	-2.60	0.27
Global Income	29.36	31.24	+0.32	3.96
High Income	123.10	131.00	+0.30	3.22

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
International	217.40	231.30	-3.20	0.36
Pref & Fxd Int	46.47	49.44	-1.35	6.79
Recovery	82.34	87.60	+2.10	1.67
Special Sits	109.80	116.80	-0.60	1.45
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 1 Sceptre Hse Sq, Maidstone ME14 1XX 0622 674 751				
General	56.11	59.69	-0.48	2.55
International	93.07	99.01	-0.91	0.69
Gilt	28.61	29.49	-0.30	6.58
Income & Gwth	79.10	84.15	-0.16	3.66
European	51.00	54.26	-0.20	1.28
American	58.41	58.95	-1.10	0.05
Emerging Mkts	107.97	114.86	-0.13	0.44
UK Smaller Cos	32.41	34.48	+0.78	1.56
Gilt/Fixed Interest	28.94	30.79	-0.11	5.19
Global PEP	41.48	44.13	-0.28	1.42
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL FD MGRS LTD 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768 388				
European Inc	239.10	255.40	+2.80	0.73
Japan Inc	97.64	104.40	+2.90	...
Nth American Inc	114.80	123.60	+3.90	0.12
Worldwide Inc	165.50	178.00	+4.10	0.69
Hong Kong Inc	188.50	200.60	-16.10	0.80
Swiss Equities Inc	68.30	73.02	+1.16	0.23
Wwide Bond Inc	66.68	70.83	-0.22	6.24
Emging Asia Inc	228.10	248.20	-4.10	0.36
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.35	51.38	-0.04	5.30
Thailand Inc	161.30	174.60	-4.30	0.77
Gold Trust Inc	93.94	101.10	+5.32	0.16
New Zealand Inc	90.24	96.71	-1.79	0.47
Ist Mngd PEP Inc	67.13	72.46	+0.84	3.66
Latin Am Cmp Inc	94.05	100.70	+3.60	0.03
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	62.44	67.15	+0.54	1.90
Le Fond Francais	71.90	77.31	+0.19	0.39
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	78.66	84.13	+1.16	1.52
Global Portfolio	71.99	78.99	-0.86	...
Global Opps	71.56	76.54	+1.08	0.43
Marsh Global Grth	73.58	78.03	+0.36	1.77
AAM Global Equity	62.31	66.29	+0.01	0.72
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	91.75	99.29	+0.59	0.91
CAM Brit Inc Inc	47.62	51.74	+0.24	1.92
CAM Int Recvy Inc	51.83	55.92	+0.55	0.92
Temple Equity Inc	49.23	53.71	+0.86	2.98
Hartley Growth	78.53	83.54	+0.79	1.24
Intl Growth Inc	79.18	84.60	+0.67	1.53
IPS Portfolio Inc	88.51	94.66	+1.26	0.23
St.Ims Mgn Inc Inc	51.94	54.95	-0.02	...
Premier Prtfas Inc	73.24	78.33	+0.54	0.35
Roxburgh Strat Gth	77.26	82.63	+1.02	0.74
Tech Analysis	111.30	118.60	+2.40	0.76
Rosebery Growth	50.45	53.73	+1.73	...
International Strat	81.89	87.58	+1.21	...
UPC Ind-Act Grth	58.40	62.57	+0.18	...
Coverdale Topour	54.87	59.34	+0.48	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD 25-31 Moorgate, London EC2R 6BA 071 588 3963				
Equity Gth	167.30	178.00	+0.10	1.53
European Gth	94.33	99.93	+0.89	0.85
Income & Gth	142.90	152.00	-0.50	2.55
Japan Gth	113.40	120.60	+1.80	...
Nth Amer Gth	119.60	127.20	-0.90	...
Overseas Gth	87.92	93.53	-0.31	...
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 51-59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL 081 478 3377 Client Enq: 071 911 4490 Intermed dlg: 071 911 4314 Pricebank: 0426 925 091				
Managed Tsr	36.92	39.48	+0.18	1.42
Cash Haven Inc	101.43	101.93	+0.07	4.27
Cash Haven Acc	107.59	108.12	+0.07	4.27
Global Growth	91.99	98.38	+0.51	0.98
Equity Inc	91.64	98.03	+1.67	3.41
Equity	768.71	822.14	+6.40	2.27
European	206.88	221.26	-0.73	0.79
High Income	96.78	103.50	+0.08	3.12
Intl Grth	183.54	196.28	-0.24	0.97
Intl Sm Co	79.24	84.74	+0.79	0.28
Japanese	185.12	197.98	+7.33	...
Nth Amer	163.42	174.78	+0.68	0.71
Pacific Mkts	115.46	123.48	-4.88	0.72
Premier Inc	53.55	55.74	-0.45	5.23
Sm Cos	91.57	97.93	+1.80	2.08
Spec Sits	115.51	123.54	+0.13	2.13
UK Growth	128.50	137.43	+1.02	1.99
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD Reliance House, Tunbridge Wells, Kent 0892 510 033				
British Life	327.20	349.00	-1.60	2.64
Reliance Inc	175.40	186.50	-0.30	1.82
ROCK ASSET MGMT (UNIT TRUST) LTD Bulman House, Regent Centre, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3NG 091 285 2555				
Managed	101.10	107.30	-0.10	1.84
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT St Swithin's Lane, London EC4 Dealers: 071 280 5000				
FA America (Inc)	526.34	560.46	-6.21	0.82
FA America (Acc)	613.34	653.11	-7.23	0.82
FA UK Equity Inc	178.94	191.06	+0.95	2.98
FA Japan	250.22	267.03	+6.84	...
FA Major UK Cos	104.25	111.20	-1.52	2.01
FA Smllr UK Cos	297.51	322.41	+3.66	1.06
FA European	307.34	325.28	-1.98	0.34
FA Amer Smllr Cos	46.80	50.13	-0.14	...
FA Asia	60.61	64.52	-3.12	...
FA Jap Smllr Cos	46.17	49.30	+0.23	...
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	103.18	107.55	+1.41	...
UK Smllr Cos	83.90	88.31	+1.03	...
UK Income	102.54	107.93	+0.26	...
America	104.96	110.48	+1.17	...
Japanese	54.92	57.80	+1.50	...
European	97.42	102.54	+0.66	...
Gilt	91.33	96.13	-0.87	...
Deposit	79.04	83.20	+0.07	...
Managed	104.18	109.65	+0.77	...
RAM FSAVC Scheme				
UK Major Cos	99.75	104.99	+1.38	...
UK Smaller Cos	82.19	86.51	+1.02	...
UK Income	100.31	105.58	+0.56	...
America	102.44	107.82	+1.17	...
Japanese	53.60	56.41	+1.46	...
European	95.14	100.14	+0.64	...
Gilt	89.97	94.69	-0.85	...
Deposit	75.82	79.80	+0.07	...
Managed	98.83	104.02	-0.60	...
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD PO Box 34, Peterborough PE2 0JE Prices: 0733 282 828 Gen Enq: 0733 390 000 Dealing: 0733 393 080				
United States	73.59	78.57	+0.69	0.11
Pacific Basin	83.30	89.53	-1.36	...
High Inc Dist	136.80	146.30	+0.60	4.15
Ryl Life Int Cnry	64.14	68.22	-0.59	3.30
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	69.00	71.56	+0.40	0.33
Ryl Life Intl Spec	63.09	67.06	+0.63	...
UK Emerging Cos	117.90	122.40	+3.50	1.48
UK Index Trckg	171.60	182.90	-2.90	3.01
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD Royal Ldn Hse, Colchester CO1 1RA 0206 764 400				
American Growth	150.10	158.90	-1.60	0.38
European Growth	105.50	111.50	...	0.73
Far East Growth	160.80	171.10	-1.10	...
Japan Growth	134.10	142.60	+1.20	...
Special Sits	201.30	214.10	+4.60	1.22
UK Growth	80.38	85.51	+0.41	1.65
Trikon General	257.40	262.60	+0.80	0.29
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NS 041 307 6500				
Far East Inc	201.90	213.70	+1.10	0.10
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	325.70	346.70	+1.50	0.31
Growth Inc	124.90	132.20	+0.80	0.02
International Inc	323.60	342.40	+3.20	...
Nth Am & Intl Inc	321.50	340.20	+0.50	0.47
PEP Prog Inc	210.00	222.20	-0.50	0.64
UK High Inc Inc	144.50	152.90	+0.80	3.05
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD City Place Hse, 55 Basinghall St EC2V 5DU 071 330 0572				
American Gwth	65.63	69.82	-0.08	1.00
Amer Smllr Cos	83.06	88.36	+0.29	...
Asian Gwth	132.66	141.13	-6.43	1.25
European Gwth	69.17	73.59	+0.69	1.50
Global Bd	63.56	67.14	-0.32	6.00
Global Eq	68.12	72.47	-0.48	0.50
Japanese Eq	55.07	58.59	+0.94	...
Japan Sm Cos	64.44	68.55	+0.78	...
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB 0708 766 966				
Amer Inc & Gwth	73.21	77.90	-0.22	3.37
Amer Smllr Cos	110.50	117.60	-0.60	...
Asian Smaller Cos	70.85	75.37	-0.82	...
Capital Portfolio	139.00	147.90	-0.70	1.63
Capital	173.20	184.30	-0.60	0.94
Cash	121.40	121.40	...	5.09
China Dragon	80.98	86.15	-5.68	0.78
Commodity	143.50	152.70	+6.10	0.52
Eastern Discovery	134.00	142.60	-2.90	...
Energy Inds	121.60	129.40	+2.80	0.30
European Gwth	190.30	202.40	+0.50	0.65
Euro Inc & Gwth	79.32	84.38	-0.49	1.84
Euro Smllr Cos	51.38	54.66	+1.02	0.52
Financial Secs	210.20	223.60	-1.80	1.04
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	54.96	58.04	-0.45	7.32
Gold & Exploration	92.37	98.27	+4.29	0.26
High Return	242.90	258.40	...	3.17
High Yield	239.40	254.70	+3.80	3.43
Income	129.50	137.80	+1.80	3.69
Intl Bond	177.70	187.80	-0.70	5.06
ITG	226.50	241.00	+1.10	0.75
Japan Growth	152.60	162.30	+4.50	...
Japan Smaller	177.40	188.70	+3.00	...
Korea	84.41	89.80	+3.50	...
Masterfund	56.05	59.63	+0.06	0.76
Scotbits	316.50	336.70	+4.20	0.85
Scotshares	301.70	321.00	+2.20	1.65
Scotyields	257.50	273.90	+1.80	3.44
Select Intl	151.60	161.30	...	0.51
Smaller Cos Inc	252.20	268.30	+3.90	3.58
SE Asia	731.40	778.10	-17.80	...
Special Situation	127.80	136.00	+1.00	0.57
UK Equity	260.60	277.20	-0.70	2.52
UK Growth	66.76	71.00	-0.17	1.42
UK Smllr Cos Gwth	47.13	50.14	+1.36	1.07
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria St EC4V 4EJ Client: 0800 526 535 Broker: 0800 526 540 General Enquiries: 071 382 3800				
Retail Funds				
American	253.53	269.72	-1.64	0.69
Australian				
European Gwth	73.99	78.69	+0.20	0.73
Euro Smllr Cos	69.81	74.46	+0.87	0.17
Far Eastern Gth	107.01	114.14	-1.76	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	58.84	62.01	-0.75	6.78
Global Bond	54.64	56.49	-1.44	5.04
Global Emer Mkts	64.53	68.63	+1.32	...
Income	377.31	402.46	+10.81	3.44
Japan Smllr Cos	438.87	468.12	+5.36	...
Japan Enterprise	63.42	67.64	+1.37	...
Pacific Gwth	158.65	167.09	-6.22	...
Seoul	56.38	60.10	+1.81	...
Smaller Cos	219.15	233.75	+5.46	0.66
Tokyo	108.94	116.26	+2.38	...
UK Enterprise	254.58	271.55	+6.84	2.10
UK Equity	251.92	268.71	+2.88	2.34
US Smllr Cos	153.62	163.64	+0.70	...
World Fd	83.89	89.48	+0.19	1.76
Institutional Funds				
European	232.31	241.58	+0.03	1.15
Euro Smllr Cos	28.50	29.68	+0.43	1.62
Global Equity Inc	77.42	80.64	-0.33	0.67
Japan Smllr Cos	33.16	34.54	+0.47	0.07
Mngd Balanced	193.44	201.50	+1.02	2.22
Overseas Equity	187.51	195.32	-1.26	0.77
Oseas Smllr Cos	121.66	126.72	+1.21	0.20
Pacific	291.18	303.31	-16.21	0.67
Recovery	1979.8	2062.3	+58.77	2.33
UK Index	162.22	168.97	-0.15	2.86
UK Small Cos	118.46	123.39	+3.08	2.41
US Smllr Cos	43.81	45.63	+0.31	0.11
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ 041 204 2200				
Equity Income	54.09	57.51	+0.43	3.02
Equity Trust	62.56	66.03	+0.26	3.85
Equity Strategy	70.35	74.93	+2.23	0.64
European Opps	85.50	91.06	+0.25	0.21
UK Smaller Cos	64.29	68.47	+1.41	1.42
Maximum Income	95.57	100.34	+0.07	4.59
Japanese	68.20	72.67	+2.11	...
Asia Pacific	153.07	163.08	-2.02	1.40
American	108.49	115.54	-0.42	0.26
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD 28 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh 0800 454 422				
Cash	50.90	50.90	+0.02	4.85
UK General Inc	55.42	59.11	+0.05	2.75
Intl Income	294.50	313.90	-4.50	2.49

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	73.74	78.05	+0.36	1.42
Japan	82.25	87.48	+1.51	0.11
American	68.75	73.06	-0.18	1.87
Far East	105.13	112.13	-3.07	0.14
Ethical Inc	31.80	34.01	+0.29	1.76
UK Blue Chip Inc	35.21	37.66	+0.08	2.45
High Inc Inc	39.53	42.17	+0.57	3.20
UK Global In	41.46	44.28	+0.34	1.22
Wwide Tech	79.45	84.98	+0.33	0.27
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	402.80	430.08	+4.20	2.35
American	278.70	295.80	+0.60	0.62
Pacific	416.60	445.60	-10.70	0.49
European	538.70	576.10	+5.40	0.78
Worldwide	99.20	106.10	+1.40	0.73
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	287.40	305.80	+0.30	2.09
UK Sir Co Eqty	205.30	218.50	+6.00	1.67
Select Opportunities	71.59	76.57	-0.40	2.10
Income Plus	76.97	81.89	+0.66	3.39
European Inc	346.70	368.90	-0.20	1.34
Far Eastern Inc	199.10	211.90	-10.50	1.02
Japanese Inc	58.99	62.76	+0.88	...
Nth American Inc	255.30	271.60	+1.70	0.39
SCOTTISH PROV INV MGMT LTD 6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 558 2340				
Equity Growth Inc	25.32	27.10	-0.10	2.53
Intl Growth Inc	32.18	34.44	-0.08	0.67
Market Leader Inc	24.62	26.35	-0.13	2.43
SCOTTISH WIDOWS FUND MGMT PO Box 902 Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031 655 3724				
Equity Inc	394.50	420.70	+1.30	2.75
UK High Inc	204.10	277.70	+2.60	3.44
Europe Inc	333.40	355.60	+2.20	0.78
Nth Amer Inc	219.10	233.70	-1.50	0.84
Global Inc	215.80	230.10	+1.80	1.01
UK Spec Sits Inc	109.80	117.10	+1.60	2.92
South East Asia	255.20	272.20	-6.20	2.16
Cash Trust Inc	100.40	100.40	+0.10	4.71
SEMPER EDEM FUND MGMT LTD 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Sector Recovery	165.30	173.60	-1.80	3.84
SHARP (ALBERT E) & CO 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
European	126.40	133.10	-0.50	1.42
Nth American	106.60	112.20	-0.80	0.94
Intl Bond & Cur	139.30	146.50	+0.60	4.72
Pooled Pension	193.50	207.00	...	...
Smaller Cos	70.80	74.53	+0.96	2.01
UK General	138.30	145.60	-1.10	2.88
SHEPPARDS UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
Income	459.54	488.87	+2.82	3.76
Global Inc	71.91	76.50	+0.48	2.45
Brit Leaders	360.43	383.44	+4.00	2.10
Intl Leaders	219.22	233.21	+1.62	0.58
PAM Mg Bal Gr	67.28	69.90	+0.71	0.92
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 21 New St, London EC2M 2HR 071 626 6226				
European ‡	117.90	...	+0.20	...
Global Bond ‡	108.30	...	-0.90	6.89
Samurai ‡	83.67	...	+1.47	...
UK Growth ‡	116.90	...	+2.60	3.39
Tai Pan ‡	118.50	...	+1.30	...
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS 1 Riding House St, London W1A 3AS 071 637 5377				
American	[illegible]	315.50	-5.20	0.45
Canadian	[illegible]	90.01	+2.60	0.22
Capital	[illegible]	154.70	-0.50	1.07
Cash	[illegible]	101.26	+0.07	4.99
European	[illegible]	142.50	+0.10	0.33
Far Eastern	[illegible]	194.10	-3.30	...
Growth	[illegible]	168.00	+2.70	0.98
Income	[illegible]	147.30	-1.40	4.17
Magnum	[illegible]	164.00	-0.70	1.06
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 12 Christchurch Rd, Bournemouth 0202 298 422				
Cash	[illegible]	50.37	+0.02	4.39
Cntrld Prfmnce	[illegible]	67.03	+0.26	7.10
Ethical	[illegible]	65.92	+1.22	3.00
European Growth	[illegible]	77.73	+0.80	2.10
Income	[illegible]	65.23	+0.68	4.80
Intl Growth	[illegible]	104.10	+1.20	2.40
Managed	[illegible]	89.18	+0.93	3.00
UK Growth	[illegible]	71.21	+0.93	3.40
STANDARD LIFE UT MGMT LTD 3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 0800 393 777				
Managed Acc	[illegible]	56.03	-0.22	1.01
UK Equity Gth Acc	[illegible]	79.15	+0.35	0.78
-do- High Inc Inc	[illegible]	44.14	+0.62	2.20
-do- High Inc Acc	[illegible]	53.03	+0.73	2.70
UK Equity Gen Acc	[illegible]	69.53	-0.33	1.78
UK Equity Gen Inc	[illegible]	52.41	-0.25	1.78
UK Lrgr Co Acc	[illegible]	487.00	+1.50	3.08
UK Lrgr Co Inc	[illegible]	369.50	+1.10	3.08
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	[illegible]	36.75	-0.35	5.43
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	[illegible]	200.50	+0.30	1.18
Nth American Acc	[illegible]	48.76	-0.43	0.51
Far East Acc	[illegible]	74.88	-0.63	...
European Acc	50.01	53.14	-0.08	0.38
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD 28 King Street, London SW1 6QW 071 344 7000				
Global A (NZ$)	3.991	4.238	+0.04	1.34
US Eqts (US$)	2.296	2.436	-0.01	0.66
Far East Eqts (yen)	235.10	249.70	+7.60	...
Japan Eqties (yen)	231.10	247.60	+4.20	...
FT Europe	131.70	139.90	-0.70	1.54
FT N-Amer (US$)	1.780	1.883	-0.01	1.18
FT Japan (yen)	222.90	236.30	+5.30	...
FT Asia Exjap (US)	2.947	3.130	+0.16	0.65
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031 226 3271				
American	372.70	397.80	-1.90	0.06
British	1088.5	1151.6	+26.30	3.15
Emging Mkts	173.00	184.30	-0.30	0.20
European	503.70	535.90	+9.70	1.01
Japan	146.00	154.90	+2.80	...
New Pacific	438.50	467.00	-12.10	0.68
Investment Tst	245.10	259.80	-0.60	0.94
Mngd Equity	183.80	194.50	+0.20	1.34
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 300				
Equity	891.90	943.20	+4.10	2.27
North America	131.50	140.60	-0.40	0.17
Far East	169.00	180.80	-3.90	...
Wwide Bond	63.50	67.41	-0.48	5.12
European	101.80	108.90	-0.30	1.05
Equity Income	100.80	107.80	+1.60	3.09
Portfolio	90.58	96.88	-0.75	0.31
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD Basing View, Basingstoke, Hants 0800 525 725				
American Growth	36.55	39.10	+0.08	0.49
Managed Assets	135.92	145.37	-1.69	2.65
UK Income	42.65	45.62	+0.06	2.83
UK Growth	41.91	44.83	-0.09	2.28
Worldwide Growth	35.49	37.96	+0.48	0.57
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD 101 Cannon St, London EC4N 5AD Admin & Enq: 0306 4044 Dlg: 071 606 6060				
Master Portfolio	[illegible]	54.74	+0.71	...
Cap Protector Inc	[illegible]	48.55	+0.35	2.18
UK Income Inc	[illegible]	60.05	-0.72	2.48
Mngd Extra Inc Inc	[illegible]	36.84	+0.10	3.31
Mngd High Yld Inc	[illegible]	92.25	-0.21	3.42
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	[illegible]	87.54	+0.77	2.44
Mngd Wwide Gth	[illegible]	40.90	+0.28	...
UK Smaller Cos	[illegible]	37.98	+0.70	1.44
Pacific Grth Port	[illegible]	58.31	-2.48	...
SWISS LIFE UK TST MAN CO LTD 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Equity Dist	[illegible]	621.80	+9.50	2.12
Fixed Int Dist	[illegible]	133.00	-0.90	6.89
UK Indx Trck Dist	[illegible]	147.70	+1.00	2.63
TSB UNIT TRUSTS Charlton Pl, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 0264 346 794				
American	[illegible]	246.60	+3.21	...
Brit Growth	[illegible]	108.45	+0.61	1.64
European	[illegible]	114.79	+1.77	0.28
Extra Income	[illegible]	233.63	+5.09	3.51
Smaller Cos	[illegible]	80.11	+1.34	0.98
General	[illegible]	333.55	+1.90	2.02
Premier Income	[illegible]	59.93	-0.18	5.34
Income	[illegible]	402.24	+6.19	3.22
Pacific	[illegible]	475.13	-15.75	...
International	[illegible]	613.96	+2.61	0.11
Nat Resources	[illegible]	198.71	+12.35	...
Slctd Opps	[illegible]	123.54	+1.30	1.21
Environmental Inv	[illegible]	69.66	-0.74	1.51
Selector	[illegible]	72.37	+0.95	1.97
High Income	[illegible]	77.41	+0.77	3.83
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
British	354.8…	373.40	+4.00	2.47
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Adnell Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 8HA 031 228 3932				
Glob Growth Inc	202.84	216.94	+2.20	1.55
Glob Balncd Inc	175.05	187.23	+1.68	2.59
Value Tst Inc	121.29	129.72	+1.06	1.22
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 33 Queen Street, London EC4R 1AX 071 246 3000 Dealing: 071 246 3001				
Amer Smllr Cos	69.89	74.54	+0.87	...
European Opps	72.04	73.39	-0.39	0.39
Dresdner Eur Bd	43.60	45.82	-1.15	8.27
Japan Tst	80.01	85.30	+0.84	...
Little Dragons	123.15	131.36	-7.54	0.35
Oriental Income	52.11	55.58	-0.79	4.45
Tiger	337.01	359.47	-16.49	0.44
UK Blue Chip	68.49	73.14	+0.03	2.70
UK Smllr Cos	101.45	108.50	+2.50	1.86
Formerly ABtrust				
Nth Amer Gwth	229.47	244.12	-1.00	0.63
European Growth	375.53	392.64	+0.84	0.96
Exempt	574.60	600.42	+6.07	3.41
Far Eastern	507.74	540.15	+5.00	0.82
UK High Yield	113.88	121.15	+2.19	3.61
Iberian Growth	46.01	49.50	-0.44	...
Intl Growth	111.98	119.30	-0.07	1.26
Preference	131.30	139.68	+0.24	7.77
UK Recovery	275.29	292.86	+6.54	2.49
UK Smllr Cos Div	101.97	108.48	+1.19	4.49
WARDLEY UNIT TS MGRS LTD 3 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GJ 071 955 5055				
Exempt	377.3	391.30	...	2.01
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	[illegible]	37.42	+4.53	0.50
Pacific Basin	[illegible]	45.14	+0.53	0.60
Can Balncd Gwth	[illegible]	40.91	+1.28	...
Global Bond (US$)	0.989	0.9967	+0.00	5.88
Penny Share	[illegible]	29.25	+0.04	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT 071 606 8882				
Challenger	[illegible]	108.50	-1.80	...
Short Dtd Gilt	[illegible]	117.50	-0.80	...
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.727	0.7318	+0.00	2.27
Gilt Income	[illegible]	58.56	-0.59	6.25
Gilt Growth	[illegible]	81.94	-1.34	...
City Reserve	[illegible]	51.85	-2.01	4.58
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 2 White Oak Sq, Swanley BR8 7AG 081 298 4000				
Stockmarket Fd	[illegible]	87.94	+2.27	1.54

Source: Finstat
* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). Ex dividend; † Middle price; ... No significant data.

Support across the board

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 4. Dealings end January 14. §Contango day January 17. Settlement day January 24. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
524	345	Abbey Ntl	490	-1	11.8	3.0	18.9
312	179	Allied Irish	312	+6	...	3.3	15.9
226½	130	Ans New Z	218	-3	...	4.2	∞
3806½	2712½	Bankamerica	3125	+12½	...	...	...
315	177	Bk of Ireland	315	+10	...	...	...
375	325	Bk Leumi UK	375	...	...	4.0	23.2
240½	116½	Bank Scotland	223	...	17.0	5.7	...
652	362	Barclays	619	+3	4.6	2.6	30.3
28	19½	Carlisle	28	+2	...	2.5	...
618	395	Cater Allen	618	+1½	...	...	...
175	85	Cattles	175	+10	28.0	5.7	...
2487½	1787½	Chase Manh	2237½	+3	...	3.2	23.3
3600	1343½	Citicorp	2487½	+6½	...	...	...
533	250	Close Bros	533	...	...	...	...
£155	9275	Commerzbk	£147½	+20	...	2.6	18.4
1348½	£250½	Deutsche Bk	£334	-12½	...	2.7	...
95	45	First Nat Fin	64	+221½	...	1.8	...
1651	876	Fuji Bank Y	1401	+3	...	1.0	...
529	343	Gerrard Nat	483	...	...	0.4	...
987	490	HSBC	920	-7	31.5	5.6	12.8
1007	474	HSBC HK	936	+15	20.0	2.7	22.0
403	243	Hambros	389	+15	20.0	2.7	22.4
428	313	Joseph (L)	418	-6	14.3	4.6	18.0
155	96	King Shaxson	134	...	16.7	5.0	...
599	312	Kleinwort Ben	591	...	9.0	8.4	...
690	492	Lloyds	634	+5	16.7	3.5	20.5
118	63	Lon Scot Bk	96	-6	19.1	3.8	18.1
575	322	Nat Aust Bk	562	-1	2.9	3.8	19.0
634	398	Nat West	615	-11	...	4.0	∞
466	270	Provident	466	+11	17.8	3.6	37.4
62	39	Rea Bros	62	+10	12.4	3.3	20.2
470	207	Ryl Bk Scot	465	...	0.5	1.1	65.9
1368	467½	Schroders	1368	+14	...	3.0	21.0
1263	576	Stand Chart	1211	+3	...	1.1	22.3
260	145½	TSB	254	+1	20.5	2.1	...
190	78	Union Disc	166	+7	6.4	3.1	...
963	529	Warburg SG	963	...	...	...	...
8831¼	4843½	Wells Fargo	8612½	+20	...	2.6	14.1
214	121	Westpac	207	-12½	...	2.3	...
325	188	Wintrust	313	-4	...	2.6	∞
				-1	9.3	3.7	28.0

BREWERIES

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
697	517	Allied-Lyons	669	+1	...	4.0	18.6
647	441	Bass	588	+18	...	4.2	15.9
299	189	Boddingtons	281	-1	7.5	3.4	16.4
459	362	Bulmer (HP)	405 †	+1	...	3.2	16.3
184	129	Burtonwood Brw	184	...	4.7	3.2	15.4
159	75	Eldridge P 'A'	155 †	+12	...	2.9	∞
70½	50	Fosters Brewing	63	-½	...	4.5	∞
435	338	Fullr Sm 'A'	435 †	...	7.5	2.2	18.6
484	373	Grand Met	484	+5	...	3.4	18.5
475	347	Greenalls Grp	461 †	+5	...	3.4	15.9
575	505	Greene King	551 †	-4	...	2.8	15.4
521	388	Guinness	489	...	...	3.1	18.3
381	230	Hardy Hanson	241	+5	8.5	4.5	∞
138	105	Heavitree	135	...	3.0	2.8	32.2
364	255	Highland Distl	357	...	...	2.3	17.8
3150	2538	Holt J	3150	+3	42.0	1.7	20.5
80	33	Hoskins Brew	75	+12	...	...	54.0
323	250	Invergordn Dist	301	...	...	2.9	17.2
186	118	Macallan-Glen	133	...	4.3	4.1	29.9
465	366	Marstn Marstn 'A'	435	+15	...	2.5	20.7
246	164	Mansfield	244	-2	...	2.0	17.5
299	231	Mrston Thmp	273	...	...	2.5	15.2
576	288½	Matthew Clark	576	+7	...	3.9	19.2
300	210	Mrrydwn W	230	...	7.0	3.8	20.6
580	455	Morland	515	+2	...	2.4	17.7
12	6½	Paramount	10½	...	...	2.1	∞
224	145	Regent Inns	224	...	...	2.5	22.7
1521	753	SA Breweries	1490	+17	...	1.8	24.8
554	393	Scot & New	545 †	+8	...	3.9	16.7
225	155½	Tamnton Cider	173	+1	6.2	4.5	13.5
283	213	Vaux Group	268 †	...	9.5	4.4	∞
381	225	Wetherspoon JD	381	+4	...	1.8	29.6
592	435	Whitbread 'A'	574	+3	...	3.9	13.8
613	463	Wolvrhmptn D	527	+1	12.6	3.0	∞
515	475	Young 'A'	510	+22	14.7	3.6	21.1

BUILDING, ROADS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
180	73	Abbey	180	...	...	1.4	29.2
29½	12	Albrighton	18 †	...	...	0.7	...
160	87	Allen	153	...	...	4.1	34.7
130	65	Amec	130	+5	3.0	2.9	24.0
12	4	Anglia Sec	9½	...	...	...	...
349	150	Ashstead	349	+10	...	1.6	36.9
143	101	Atwoods	138	...	...	4.5	...
360	180	BPB Ind	347	+3	...	2.7	41.5
98	57	Baggeridge Brk	98 †	+5	3.1	4.0	∞
31	18	Bailey (Ben) Con	31	...	0.6	2.4	...
108	74	Barcom	82 †	...	3.0	4.6	∞
56½	32½	Bardon	49½	...	2.0	5.1	24.4
242	94	Barratt Devs	240	+14	4.0	2.1	∞
497	305	Bellway	497	+6	12.0	3.0	∞
51	15	Bellwinch	51	+2	...	...	...
541	295½	Berkeley Gp	541 †	+9	...	1.4	29.2
118	45	Bett Bros	118	...	...	2.1	15.2
68	36	Blockleys	64	...	...	1.0	2.0 70.7
358	189	Blue Circle	342	+1	...	4.1	...
285	230	Boot (Henry)	280	+2	6.0	2.7	15.7
106	78	Breedon PLC	102	...	4.6	5.6	25.1
133	82	Br Dredging	133	...	5.2	4.9	28.5
86	45	Brk Fittings	78	...	1.7	2.8	...
173	99	Bryant	173	+4	...	3.5	34.9
138	53	CALA	138	+2	...	2.1	...
372	200	CRH	371	+1	...	2.3	20.4
43	18	Cakebread Rby	35	...	...	...	...
41½	21	Costain	32½	-½	...	...	...
173	80½	Countryside	169	-1	...	3.1	∞
105	38	Crest Nicholson	105	+3	0.0	...	...
112	27	Cussins	105	...	...	1.2	...
25	15	Edmond Hldgs	20½	...	0.3	1.8	...
285	178	Epwin	276	+1	7.0	3.2	23.4
59	32	Erith	58	...	0.3	0.8	...
506	252	Eve Group	440	...	...	2.9	16.5
169	97	Freeman Gp	169	+12	...	3.7	20.9
50	38	Galliford	42	+1	...	3.0	...
87	52	Gibbs & Dandy	87	...	...	2.9	...
923	695	Gleeson (MJ)	913	...	...	1.7	15.9
147	75	Hewden-Stuart	147 †	+1	...	2.3	31.5
51	28	Hewetson	47	+1	...	3.4	34.3
423	173	Heywd Wm	423	+7	13.0	3.8	...
138	37	Higgs & Hill	138	+7	2.5	2.3	...
38	26	How Gp	28	...	...	5.0	...
28	15	Howard Hldgs	26	-1	0.5	2.4	...
86	39	Ibstock Johnsen	86	+1	2.0	1.5	...
25	12½	Jarvis	18	+1½	...	...	...
320	196	Laing (J)	320	+7	8.0	3.5	12.8
127½	103	-do- 6½% Cv Pf	125½	+1½	...	6.4	...
125	55	Ln Clydeside	125	+1	4.5	4.5	47.1
23	10	Lovell (YJ)	12	...	...	...	5.4
398	240	Mandens	398	+2	9.3	2.9	24.4
195	93	Marley	194	+2	4.2	2.7	56.9
139	61	Marshalls	137 †	+1	...	3.6	...
228	122	Maunders (J)	226	-8	...	2.9	21.2
280	96	McAlpine (A)	280	+10	6.5	3.1	45.0
63	23	McCarthy & S	62	+1½	0.5	1.0	...
540	272	Meyer Intl	540	+13	...	2.3	54.1
137	62	Mowlem (J)	136	+4	4.0	3.7	...
184	51	NSM	183	+4	...	...	...
53	48	Needler	48	...	...	3.7	22.4
176	106	Newman Tnks	176	+2	...	4.8	23.5
315	197	Persimmon	315	+4	8.6	3.4	52.1
26	9	Phoenix Timber	9	...	...	...	...
1750	1237½	Pochins	1750	...	29.0	2.1	24.7
198	80	Prowting	186	-4	3.4	2.3	...
993	555	RMC Gp	991	+34	...	2.5	37.2
117	75½	Raine Ind	95½	-½	...	3.5	22.4
36	18	Ransus	25	...	...	...	...
611	402	Redland	608	+18	25.0	5.1	35.4
86	64	Rockel	74	...	4.3	7.3	10.9
342	207	Rugby Group	335	+7	6.4	2.4	25.7
68	23	Sterla-Rwe	58	...	...	0.5	...
165	68	Sharpe & Fisher	165	+3	...	3.0	28.7
276	80½	Sheffield Insl	230	...	...	2.5	66.3
258	62	Shepherd Hldgs	258 †	+3	...	1.8	∞
46	66	Shorco	96	...	...	6.8	21.8
240	196	Smart (J)	228	...	...	4.7	17.2
6½	1½	Starmin	2½	...	...	...	...
195	100	Tarmac	194	+10	5.5	3.5	...
211	131	Tay Homes	211	+5	...	3.5	26.1
164	63	Taylor Woodrw	164	+5	1.0	0.8	...
643	435	Tilbury Dougls	643	+10	33.0	6.4	20.9
43	19	Torex Hire	42	...	...	1.2	...
315	168	Travis Perkins	312	+9	8.0	3.2	54.9
21	5½	Trencherwood	16	...	...	...	...
40	25	Try Group	31	+1	1.0	4.0	8.8
28	21	Tudor	21	...	...	1.5	...
99	41	Vibroplant	98	+3	2.5	3.2	35.2
65	30	Ward Hldgs	58	+½	...	...	...
33	25	Waterhouse	33	...	...	...	...
475	360	Watts Blake	455	+2	...	3.3	19.6
23	6½	Wescol	23	...	...	...	...
200	90	Westbury	200	+1	5.0	3.1	31.2
4½	3	Wiggins	4½	+½	...	...	...
509	362	Wilson Bowdn	509	+2	...	2.2	35.8
231	147	Wilson (C)	230	+6	3.9	2.1	39.8
195	104	Wimpey G	195	+11	...	3.4	...
47	15	YRM	28	...	0.5	2.2	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	483	ADT	623	...	...	...	...
293	198	Adam & Harvey	293	+10	13.0	5.5	5.4
92	56	Air London	68	+3	...	6.4	12.1
56	37	African Lakes	44	...	2.0	5.7	...
178	93	Auto Sec	137	...	...	3.6	24.6
148	84	BET Ord	148	+8	...	1.9	6.0
131	41	BNB Res	131	+13	4.9	4.7	...
318	185	BPP	230	...	8.3	4.5	12.7
178	159	BSM	160	...	...	4.5	14.0
285	195	Barbour Index	235	+2	8.0	4.3	16.0
29	15	Boustead	22	...	0.7	4.0	...
269	184	Brit Data Mgt	211	-5	4.7	2.8	15.4
26	11	Broadcastle	23	...	...	1.4	18.3
71	45	Brooks Service	58	...	...	1.1	...
109	86	CRT Gp	105	+3	...	3.5	18.5
240	139½	Capita Group	218	-5	...	1.3	34.0
57	31	Cassel Plc	52	+1	...	2.2	20.0
55	18½	Chiltern Capital	23	+1	...	...	...
70	26	Christie	65	...	...	...	...
384	228	Chubb Sec	371	+5	...	1.8	23.0
116	90	Comarx	106	+1	...	1.8	27.7
43	6½	Corp Services	42	+1	...	...	...
91	20	Courts Cnslig	87	+1	...	...	...
169	50	Dart	169	+7	3.3	2.4	22.9
256	196	Davis Service	248	+4	...	4.0	18.7
124	85	EW Facs	119	...	4.4	4.7	13.6
32	11	Gardiner	25	...	0.4	2.1	17.3
258	215	Hays	258	+1	...	2.2	26.0
280	174	Hogg Robinsn	280	+5	...	3.2	19.0
70	34	Holmes Protectn	36	...	...	...	2.2
344	122	Hurch Whamp	308	-7	...	1.6	25.5
2175	975	ISS B Dkr	2112½	...	...	1.8	14.6
637	475	Inchcape	561	+10	...	3.2	18.3
877	669	Johnson Clean	877	+9	25.7	3.7	19.1
12	2½	Lep	6½	-½	...	...	...
295	173	Mole Gp	294	+8	3.5	1.5	22.9
1214	893	Manpower	1214	+35	...	...	...
66½	40½	Michael Page	66½	+½	1.8	3.4	28.3
279	115	Pennon	115	...	...	8.7	4.3
4½	2	Prime People	3½	...	...	...	...
142	57	Promotions Ale	65	+1	...	28.8	3.6
422	337	RCO	370	...	14.1	4.8	12.7
178	95	REA	103	...	2.0	2.4	...
118	43	Reed Executive	118	+8	...	...	...
196	105	Reliance Sec	105	...	...	5.4	22.5
249	178	Rentokil	249	+10	2.5	1.3	31.1
330	220	Rolfe & Nolan	315	+10	...	3.0	21.6
399	319	Salvesen (C)	344	+5	...	2.9	22.8
51	25	Scott Pickford	40	...	...	2.0	15.6
11	5	Select Appts	9	...	...	...	...
1280	695	Serco Gp	1280	+5	13.3	1.3	35.7
132	83	Sherwd Cmpt	110	...	...	8.0	3.2
125	90	Sketchley	101	+1	...	3.7	23.1
355	310	Warner Howard	325	...	6.6	2.6	17.0
45	27	Welpac	27	...	...	...	...
28	14	Wills Gp	26½	...	...	1.9	18.5

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
248	210	Allied Colloids	235	+1	...	2.5	21.6
1041	813	Amersham	1003	-10	...	1.7	28.9
7	1½	Anglia Utd	3½	...	...	...	...
£119½	8325	BASF DM	£117½	-87½	...	5.6	...
333	199	BTP	333	+2	...	3.6	26.7
£140½	£107½	Bayer DM50	£140½	-87½	...	3.9	...
113	105	Blagden	113	+4	6.5	7.2	12.2
165	63	Brent Chems	126	...	...	7.3	11.5
530	345	Br Bio-Tech	353	...	...	...	...
25	5	Cabot Gp	9½	...	...	22.2	16.0
180	126	Canning (W)	165	+4	7.2	5.6	18.7
608	421	Courtaulds	534	+14	...	3.3	13.4
349	228	Croda	348	-1	...	2.9	20.0
140	105	Doeflex	114	...	4.6	5.0	8.7
575	175	Ellis & Everard	557	...	...	3.7	22.7
42½	15	Euro Colour	36	...	0.8	3.1	17.2
356	359	Halstead (J)	350	+1	...	3.3	17.3
241	150	Hickson	182	-2	...	5.5	16.9
6216	3952	Hoechst	6116½	+100	...	3.1	...
209	57	Holliday Chem	183	+11	...	2.5	16.8
804	628	ICI	800	+23	...	4.3	...
797	576	Laporte	787	+27	19.9	3.2	21.2
350	187	Leigh	332	-5	...	4.8	17.8
57	35	MTM	48	...	...	...	...
2920	1625	Norsk Hydro	2900	+800	...	1.0	41.4
482	372	Pearson Zoch	466	...	...	3.4	15.7
432	360	-do- 'A'	421	...	...	3.7	14.2
256	175	PWS	221 †	+2	...	4.0	18.6

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
303	173	Porvair	271	+1	3.8	1.8	29.0
70	35	Sutcliffe Speak	56	...	...	...	...
485	412	Wardle Storeys	449	...	...	4.8	20.7
575	395	Wistonlme E	575	...	17.0	3.7	19.7
425	330	Yorks Chem	405	...	...	2.4	21.7
300	233	Yule Catto	279	+10	...	2.7	17.4
883	593	Zeneca	868	+15	...	4.0	51.0

DRAPERY, STORES

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
102	53	Alexon	66	...	...	5.8	...
230	173	Alldays	230	+12	...	3.3	17.1
87	42	Amber Day	65	...	1.3	2.6	∞
410	257	Argos Plc	383	+9	...	2.3	32.7
25	9	Ashley Group	9½	+½	...	2.5	...
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	72	...	0.1	0.2	...
330	278	Asprey	309	-1	3.2	2.1	19.9
195	94	Austin Reed	193	-1	...	1.6	...
195	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	154	+1	...	5.0	15.5
134	94	Bentalls	132	...	1.9	1.8	...
278	125	Benetware	143	+1	...	1.9	17.1
47	22	Blacks Leis	37	...	2.2	7.6	...
230	133	Body Shop	230	+9	...	1.0	29.7
16½	9½	Brown & Jackson	11½	...	...	0.9	6.1
434	318	Brown (N)	426	...	...	2.1	25.0
87½	60	Burton	67½	-1	...	3.8	...
205	126	Cantors	205	+10	...	2.4	28.6
430	295	Church	430	+2	12.5	3.6	38.3
183	97	Clinton Cards	160	...	4.3	3.4	19.3
280½	212	Coats Viyella	287	+4	...	3.5	36.9
112	78	Colourvision	103	...	5.6	6.9	18.5
181	154	Cty Casuals	160	+6	...	3.1	15.4
935	374	Courts Furnish	903	+13	5.6	0.8	11.3
155	115	Crown Eyes	155	...	...	6.8	10.6
137	89	Dalry Farm Intl	124	-5	...	2.9	18.2
99½	51½	Dewhirst (IJ)	99½	+½	0.8	1.0	31.9
293	189	Dixons Grp	244	+4	...	3.3	...
21	8	ERA Gp	9	...	...	...	79.8
530	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	530	...	16.0	3.8	18.2
244	71	Etam Furn	220	...	...	2.0	35.2
273	203	Etam	249	+3	7.0	3.5	22.8
608	499	Fine Art Dev	520	...	13.0	3.1	16.9
70	26	Fired Earth Tiles	47	...	...	...	...
680	498	Forminster	685 †	-3	14.5	2.7	12.4
180	24	French Conn	126	+1	...	...	...
74	43	Gent SR	71	-2	...	3.7	22.1
100	23	Goldsmiths Gp	91	...	0.3	0.4	...
659	334	GUS	632	+4	...	2.3	19.4
40	21	Hampden Grp	21	...	...	6.0	10.4
277	30	Harestone	58	+5	...	...	...
33½	20	Helene Plc	33	...	2.0	7.6	15.6
101	29	Heritage	101	+1	...	...	...
86	35	Honeysuckle	81	+2	...	3.5	∞
199	63	Jacques Vert	199	+10	...	1.9	15.2
783	496	Kingfisher	729	-18	...	2.4	25.1
76	62½	Leslie Wise Gp	75	...	4.0	6.7	15.5
685	495	Liberty	535	...	7.2	1.7	63.0
380	241	Lloyds Chem	358	+3	...	2.5	12.6
168	120	MFI	160	-2	...	2.9	33.6
461½	311	Marks Spencer	452	+4	...	2.3	23.1
598	445	Menzies (John)	588	...	...	2.3	16.7
274	135	Moss Bros	270	-2	5.5	2.5	31.7
240	159½	Next	233	-5	3.5	1.9	27.8
41	15	Oliver (G)	40	+1	...	...	...
325	197	Oriflame Intl	313	...	...	4.0	15.1
63	24	Pentos	35	+½	0.8	2.9	7.3
313	185	QS Hldgs	225	...	3.1	2.9	16.0
69½	20	Rhino Grp	52	-3	...	...	...
190	120	Roselyn	190	+1	...	3.2	22.8
181	135	Sherwood Gp	154	...	...	2.1	13.9
131½	93	Sears	126	-½	...	3.5	...
41½	11	Signet Group	27½	-½	...	...	...
528	400	Smith WH 'A'	528	+16	...	3.4	17.3
120	83	-do- B	119	+½	...	3.0	19.5
20	4½	Specialeyes	14	...	...	...	...
247	176	Storehouse	247 †	-10	...	2.5	24.4
191	146	T & S Stores	153	+4	6.0	4.9	11.4
162	71	Tie Rack	159	...	1.0	0.8	26.0
249	160	Time Products	248	+4	7.7	3.9	21.4
128	63	Usher (Frank)	112	...	...	6.7	9.7
418	302	Vendome	418	+4	...	1.8	19.5
45	27	Viyal	37	...	1.0	3.4	11.5
48	34	Wensum	44	...	...	5.3	...
120	76	Wickes	112	-2	...	0.2	30.9
78	45	Wid of Leather	54	...	...	...	...
192½	142	Wyevale	186	...	...	2.9	24.6
4	2½	Xtra-vision	2½	...	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
187	134	ACT Group	151	+5	...	4.1	15.2
275	223	Acal	263	...	...	3.1	18.9
488	385	Admiral	488	+3	5.7	1.5	20.6
170	104	Alba	163	...	...	3.7	18.4
50	19½	Alphameric	35½	-1½	...	...	...
55	22	Amstrad	44	...	0.5	1.4	∞
128	61	App Holo	75	...	...	...	...
43	9½	Arlen	33	...	...	...	...
88	35½	Astec	80½	...	...	0.4	...
266	230	Aston	262	-1	...	1.4	31.3
303	224	Beales Hunter	241	...	...	4.9	14.9
9	2	Bennett & Fountn	3	+½	...	...	...
446	319	BICC	445	+8	19.2	5.4	...
558	408	Black	475	...	10.2	2.7	∞
1700	925	Bodand	1100	...	...	...	...
384	250	Bowthorpe	367	+7	...	2.4	24.3
499½	376	BT	474	+8	...	4.2	18.3
232½	150	BT P/P	216	+6	...	4.2	22.5
18½	5½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	18½	...	0.1	0.7	...
160	48	Burnfield	66	+1	5.7	10.9	10.4
545	384½	Cable Wireless	508	+2	...	1.9	26.4
27½	11½	Chloride	29½	...	...	...	...
276	229	CML Micro	276	+5	...	2.1	20.1
115	74	Compsr People	108	...	...	...	...
168½	108½	Cray Elect	168	+3	...	1.1	17.5
434	283	Crichley	429	+5	...	1.5	25.0
554	414	Delta	511	+17	...	3.4	21.3
463	205	Dewhurst Ele	463	+5	...	1.7	19.2
630	395	Domino	406	+5	7.4	2.3	13.9
74	48	Dowding Mills	74	...	...	4.2	31.7
1600	865	Druck	1425	+192	10.3	0.9	30.3
558	358	Electrocomponts	538	+18	...	2.0	21.9
710	470	El Data Prc	595	...	5.5	1.2	∞
155	43	Electron House	151	+1	2.6	2.2	33.1
30½	10½	Emess	28	+2	0.1	0.5	...
737	442	Eurotherm	737	+2	9.5	1.6	∞
202	108	FKI	202	+6	...	2.0	29.6
582½	340	Farnell Elect	582½	+15½	...	1.4	30.8
91	33	Feedback	73	...	...	3.4	9.9
18	1	Ferranti	1 #	...	...	...	...
305	101	First Tech	304	...	...	0.8	25.2
220	81	Forward Gp	231	...	...	2.2	16.3
22½	13½	Forward Tech	15½	...	...	...	...
367½	264	GEC	328	+9½	10.4	4.0	16.4
199	132	Graseby	166	+4	...	8.2	34.0
14	7	Grayone	11½	...	...	...	...
52	35	Hilclare	39	...	...	1.6	...
169	83	INSTEM	138	+3	...	2.8	9.9
160	118	Ind Control	149	...	...	3.7	15.0
388	320	Jones Stroud	388	...	...	2.8	15.6
105	26	Kalamazoo	101	+1	2.7	3.3	23.5
19	6	Kenbury	12½	...	0.1	1.6	...
370	280	Kenwood App	360	...	...	2.7	20.5
265	67	Kewill Sys	222	...	...	...	...
209	100	Kode	153	-5	6.0	4.9	18.1
60	16	Laser-Scan	40	...	...	...	...
365	122	LDMS	144	-1	...	0.7	20.3
300	205	Lec Refrig	258	...	9.0	4.4	...
179	129	Life. Sciences	167	+3	3.7	2.8	18.1
285	164	Logica	279	+3	...	1.8	32.2
55	44	LPA Ind	52	...	...	8.5	14.7
229	162	MR Data Mngmt	210	+1	...	3.1	19.7
718	523	Macro 4	695	+2	...	3.2	21.1
247	175½	Memec-Sw	247	+2	...	1.9	21.9
1013	903	Mem Focus	1038	-2	...	...	...
227	141	Microgen	149	-1	7.2	6.1	10.1
35	23½	Microvitec	33½	...	...	...	...
529	357	Mitys	503	+3	...	1.7	18.4
584	98	Mitel	455	+18	...	...	...
153	108	MMT Comps	152	+7	...	3.3	20.7
52	16	Molynx	37	+½	1.3	4.4	...
272	202	MTL Instr	260	...	...	1.8	19.6
165	103	Multitone Elect	141	...	3.5	3.1	25.6
269	116	Murray Enter	267 †	...	...	1.9	∞
3206½	2612½	NYNEX	2650	...	...	...	...
188	127	Neotronics	127	...	2.6	2.6	16.4
65	42	Newmark (L)	53	...	...	...	...
295	58	Norbain	287	+3	...	0.7	22.1
75	20	Northamber	48	+1	0.6	1.6	...
15½	5	Oceonics	7½	...	...	...	...
335	195	Oxford Instr	333	...	4.6	1.7	22.8
83	48	P-E Internt'l	79½	+1½	...	...	...
81½	29	P & P	65	...	1.5	3.9	34.5
95½	55	Peek	92	...	3.4	4.6	24.0
227	115	Pegasus	214	...	...	3.7	54.9
£102½	6000	Philips Fn 4%	£102½	+500	...	3.6	...
1487½	725	-do- Lmtp NV	1487½	+25	...	...	...
400	211	Phonelink	400	+2	...	...	...
320	171½	Pitco	320	...	...	1.6	26.8
310	151½	-do- 'A' Voting	310	...	...	1.7	26.0
96	69	Plasmec	72	...	...	5.2	6.1
120	76	Pressac	105	...	...	3.1	22.3
207	81	Psion	206	+13	...	1.5	54.7
261	147	Racal Elect	199	+10	4.2	2.7	11.8
70	33	Radamec	46	+6	...	4.1	9.8
70	24	Radius	34	...	2.2	8.3	11.7
92	61	Real Time	80	+7	...	4.7	16.4
18	15	Riva	18	...	...	...	22.8
629	367	Sage Gp	518	+5	9.9	2.4	∞
348	222	Sanderson Elec	325 †	...	9.9	3.8	13.9
88	49	Scantronic	79	...	3.1	5.0	21.6
205	177	Scholes Grp	201	-1	...	3.1	28.0
375	270	Sema Gp	334	...	2.9	1.1	26.3
42	26	Silverstines	42	...	...	3.0	...
71	37	Soundtracks	71	...	...	4.0	24.0
2675	1737½	TDK	2362½	+9½	...	1.3	26.7
27	4½	TDS Circuits	11½	+½	...	...	...
198	80	Telemetrix	152	...	0.8	0.7	25.0
1053	809	THORN EMI	1053 †	+9	...	3.8	24.4
152	96	Thorpe FW	135	...	...	2.5	15.7
103	23	Total Systems	27	+3	1.5	6.9	4.8
575	372	Tunstall	565 †	...	7.0	1.5	∞
295	164	Unitech	271	+15	...	2.8	64.2
15	6	Verity	12½	+½	...	...	...
35	22	Vistec	24	-½	...	2.0	14.2
619	367	Vodafone	614	+14½	...	1.6	26.7
473	308	Volex	455	...	18.1	5.0	18.7
26	11	Western Selectn	20	...	0.2	1.6	...
290	223	Wholesale Ftgs	289	+7	11.7	5.1	30.7

ELECTRICITY

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
676	389	East Midlands	648	+16	...	4.0	11.4
704	399	Eastern Elect	665	+17	...	3.9	12.5
480½	304	Hydro-Elect	460	+9	...	3.2	16.0
677	404	London Elect	647 †	+19	...	4.1	12.2
772	458	Manweb	755	+14	...	3.7	9.3
731	424½	Midlands Elec	710	+20	...	3.8	11.1
510	273	National Powr	481	+12	...	2.9	11.9
741	440	Northern Elec	724	+28	...	3.9	9.4
283	100	Nthn Ireland	272	+9	...	3.2	13.0
768	439	Norweb	763	+20	20.8	3.5	10.6
522	273	PowerGen	581	+12	...	2.5	14.5
487	285	Scottish Power	470	+6	...	3.1	17.3
754	436	Seeboard	747	+19	...	3.5	9.6
770	469	Sth Wales	753	+8	...	3.8	11.4
706	426	Sth Western	691	+8	...	3.9	10.1
724	406	Southern Elec	683 †	+20	...	3.8	9.0
692	455	Yorkshire Elec	680	+16	...	4.0	12.7

FINANCE, LAND

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60½	50	Aitken Hume	53	...	1.0	2.4	11.2
133	47	BWD	132	...	...	3.2	20.6
101	26	Baltic Plc	99	...	...	1.3	...
628	413	Caledonia	625	...	...	3.1	23.2
1900	1075	Camellia	1900	...	...	2.9	7.1
353	243	Cancover	348	...	10.4	3.8	24.6
385	71	Figmech	379	...	...	0.2	...
398	198	Gavett	392	-4	...	4.2	11.5
200	125	Ivory Sime	200 †	+5	...	4.4	17.3
8½	3	LIT	8½	...	...	...	...
240	154	Lon Forfaiting	236	...	8.7	4.6	17.2
80	47	Manakin	80 †	+1	...	...	...
12½	3½	Nat Home Loan	10½	+1	...	...	...
53	40	Newmarket	53	...	...	...	...
341	246	Rathbone Bs	316	...	6.5	2.6	19.2
26	17	Rutland Tst	22	...	...	4.5	13.1
340	283	S & U	310	-6	10.2	4.1	11.5
89	48	Singer & Fried	88	+1	...	4.3	...
1138	713	Sothebys	1125	-13	...	3.0	...
142	113	SIP Capital	142	+4	3.0	2.6	58.6
208	183	Towry Law	205	+1	...	2.8	20.1

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2556½	1487½	Amer Express	1981½	-31½	...	...	...
1133	835	Henderson Ad	1023	...	...	5.1	23.6
209	92	Invesco	202	-3	...	1.9	...
317	164	Jardine Strat	290	...	...	2.7	12.1
284	154	MAI	284	+5	...	3.0	18.0
728	380	MAM	714	-1	16.0	2.8	17.8
1052	633	M & G	1030 †	+3	25.0	3.0	∞
433	309	Smith New Ct	416	-1	...	2.1	4.1
81	45	Tyto Hldgs	56	...	2.5	5.5	∞

FOODS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
573	456	AB Food	573	+1	...	3.3	11.7
77½	46½	ASDA Group	62	...	1.6	3.4	...
345	170	Acatos & Hutch	341	+1	8.0	3.0	∞
80	55	Albert Fisher	70	-1	3.7	6.7	∞
407	286	Argyll	305	-6	...	4.6	11.0
260	160	Banks (S C)	259	+1	9.5	4.6	11.4
402	305	Barr (AG)	310	+1	6.5	2.6	15.7
85	56	Bensons Crsps	66	...	...	5.4	14.9
141	100	Berisford Intl	127	...	...	...	...
455	357	Booker	449	+15	...	6.1	38.9
52	35	Borthwick	50	+½	...	3.0	62.1
505	430	Brake Bros	468	...	6.3	1.7	19.5
51	38	Budgen	40	...	...	3.1	12.1
541	407	Cadbury-Schw	540	+6	...	3.1	19.1
154	78	Carrs Milling	153 †	...	...	3.5	11.2
196	133	Cranswick	164 †	...	...	6.1	15.5
22	8½	Cullens	16	+½	0.5	3.9	46.0
384	179	Dalepak	139	+13	6.0	5.4	10.9
521	424	Dalgety	513	+3	...	5.0	14.7
54	27	Daniels S	50	...	...	0.6	...
283	191	Devro	263	+4	...	2.6	25.0
134	99	Everest	101	...	...	4.6	18.3
390	269	Farepak	390	+1	5.7	1.8	24.0
10	3	Farringford	7	...	...	...	...
94	64	Finlay (James)	73	...	...	7.1	24.2
125	78	Fyffes	106	...	...	1.5	18.9
483	305	Geest	371	+16	8.1	2.7	16.7
16	7	Global	14	...	...	4.5	21.8
50	43	Grand Central	50	...	0.8	2.0	...
203	139	Hazlewood Fds	164	+1	...	5.0	9.2
179	131	Hillsdown	176	-2	8.8	6.2	13.9
250	146	Iceland Group	193	+9	...	2.3	12.2
131	92	JLI Group	105 †	+2	...	5.6	11.6
853	592	Kwik Save	627	+10	...	3.6	11.3
262	144	Low (Wm)	189½	+10½	...	5.5	6.6
89	41	Matthews (B)	89	...	2.3	3.3	58.3
19½	11	Merchant Retail	15	+2	0.9	8.0	30.3
174	84	Morrison (W)	115	-3	...	0.9	15.0
233	177	Nichols (JN)	226	...	5.5	3.1	16.4
291	207½	Nthn Foods	253	+2	...	4.2	12.4
20½	8	Nrthmbrn Fns	9	...	...	...	...
229	172	Nurdin Peack	186	+1	...	4.2	10.3
286	205	Park Foods	286	...	...	2.6	22.0
115	58	Perkins Food	66	-1	...	8.4	7.6
118	47	PizzaExpress	118	+3	...	0.5	24.9
9	1½	Regina Hlth	5	...	...	...	...
584	360	Sainsbury J	464	+3	...	2.8	16.3
86	33	Sentry Farm	73	...	...	2.6	13.1
225	90	Sims Food	101	+1	...	8.0	19.5
439	355½	Tate & Lyle	431	+3	...	3.8	11.5
273	176	Tesco	234	+2½	...	3.9	10.6
221	123	Thorntons	180	+13	...	3.5	...
183	101	Treatt	167	...	...	2.8	19.1
410	300	Unigate	404	+12	...	5.1	13.2
437	326	Utd Biscuits	386	+14	...	5.0	23.9
24½	18½	Usborne	21	...	...	3.2	15.5
337	248	Watson & Phil	310	+3	13.2	5.3	16.2
59	30½	West Trust	35	+1	...	9.6	...

HOTELS, CATERERS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
26	12	Abrdn Stk Hs	20	...	1.5	2.2	22.0
103½	77	Cty Centre Rest	91	...	...	3.6	20.7
269	170	Forte	264	...	...	4.0	34.3
215	148	Friendly Hotels	176	+1	...	...	...
11½	5	Harmony Props	9½	...	...	...	...
168	87	Jurys Hotel	168	...	...	3.8	13.6
222½	142	Ladbroke	194	+14	11.1	7.2	16.6
98	59	Mandarin Orntl	94	+2	...	3.6	23.3
2½	½	Regal Hotels	1½	...	...	...	...
55	28	Resort Hotels	45 #	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
24	11½	Ryan Hotels E	19½	+1	...	6.4	...
855	700	Savoy Hotel 'A'	800	...	7.0	1.1	...
66	34½	Stakis	65	+2	...	0.9	...

INDUSTRIALS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
218	19	AAF Inds	39	+1	...	28.2	2.4
616	455	AAH	492	...	...	4.4	16.4
185	123	AIM	147	+5	7.5	6.4	8.9
132	88	APV	129	+3	...	5.2	...
238	81	ASW	168	+3	...	4.5	...
185½	118	Adwest	180	+2	...	4.8	17.9
29	10	Aerospace Eng	20½	...	...	4.6	27.0
289	249	Airsprung	289	+1	...	2.0	18.5
196	113	Alexdrs W	196	+1	4.1	2.6	31.0
13½	6½	Allied Radio	7½	...	...	...	...
292½	207½	Alumasc	288	...	...	2.5	17.0
48	17	Alvis	40 †	...	1.0	3.1	∞
725	345	Amber Ind	725	...	...	3.3	16.6
56	45	Amberley Gp	50	...	...	2.5	...
107	75	Anagen	80	...	...	...	...
145	65	Andrews Sykes	68	...	...	5.5	...
1265	703	Antofagasta	1265	+135	...	1.6	23.4
54½	37	Armour	52½	+½	...	3.9	12.5
170	143	Ash & Lacy	168	...	6.4	4.8	17.2
4	2½	Ass Br Eng	3½	...	...	1.8	...
541½	434	Avon Rubber	515	+22	...	4.0	∞
268	168	Assoc Nursg	268 †	...	...	0.5	16.4
687½	488	Atlas Equip	493	...	...	5.6	12.4
81	35	Ayrshire Metal	66	...	...	...	...
203	147	BBA	203	+4	...	4.6	17.3
115	28	BLP Group	115	...	...	...	...
77	13	BM Gp	29	+2	0.5	2.8	...
770	590	BOC	665	+14	...	4.4	15.7
79½	50	BSG	71	+5½	...	5.6	24.7
549	353	BSS Group	545	+5	...	4.0	30.4
409½	318	BTR	356	+7	...	3.9	19.9
221	147	BWI	158	+3	...	5.3	14.6
50	25½	Babcock	36	+2½	...	3.8	21.5
9	4½	Bailey (CH)	7½	...	...	...	...
289	228	Baird (Wm)	248	+4	8.9	4.5	17.2
1062½	550	Barlow Rand	875	+6½	...	3.9	∞
66	48	Baynes (Charles)	65	...	...	2.8	26.6
28½	14	Bearing Power	22 †	...	0.7	4.3	∞
15	4	Beaufort	4	...	...	...	...
10	2	Beckenham	2	...	...	...	...
34	15	Bedford (W)	29	...	...	...	...
27½	15	Benson Group	15	-½	...	2.5	11.4
707	285	Bespak	345 †	+15	10.2	3.7	10.8
133	55	Bibby (J)	69	+3	2.0	3.6	∞
312	129	Billam (J)	200	...	5.3	3.3	10.1
46	21½	Bilston Batsea	30	...	...	...	...
11½	2	Bimec Ind	4½	...	...	...	...
247	118½	Birkby	247	+2	3.7	1.9	12.9
45	29	Black Arrow	30	...	2.1	8.8	9.4
1½	½	Black & Edgtn	1½	...	...	...	...
266	136	Black (Peter)	266	+9	3.7	1.8	23.4
590	129	Bluebird Toys	570	+17	...	1.0	17.4
322	230	Bodycote	281	+7	...	2.3	18.0
40	23	Bogod 'A'	33 †	...	0.7	2.7	12.3
609	416	Boots	581	-1	...	2.0	22.9
61	39	Booth Inds	60	...	...	...	...
523	402	Bowater	459	+1	...	3.3	19.2
1682	1189	Bowater Inc	1618	+17	...	...	...
279	199	Boxmore Intl	260	...	...	1.8	19.5
19	12½	Brasway	16 †	+½	...	4.0	...
305	204	Brammer	305	+11	13.0	5.3	22.7
27	12	Bridgend Gp	25	...	0.4	...	...
125	64	Bridon	122	+1	...	4.1	...
88	53	Bridport-Gndry	81	...	...	3.9	...
57½	31	Brierley Inv	50	-1	...	6.8	12.3
308	190	Br Bldg & Eng	200	+10	8.0	5.0	∞
119	42	Br Bloodstock	112	...	...	...	...
528	415	Br Polythene	449	-1	...	2.9	16.1
135½	54	Br Steel	127½	+1	...	1.5	...
180	80	Br Syphon	85	...	...	4.4	23.8
195	113	Br Thornton	166 †	-7	...	3.8	17.2
268	215	Br Vita	266	+5	7.3	3.4	16.4
19½	9½	Brixton Grp	15½	...	...	1.5	...
842	555	Broken Hill	842	+2	...	2.2	38.1
112	78	Bromsgrve Ind	96	+2	...	5.7	12.5
11½	6½	Brooke Tool	10½	-½	...	...	...
73	36	Brown & Tawse	52	...	...	...	...
163	91	Bullough	163	+2	6.0	4.6	27.9
24	11½	Business Tech	14	...	...	...	...
28	12	CI Group	15	...	0.5	4.8	14.4
42	11	Campbll & Arm	40	...	...	...	...
33	6½	Cannon St	31	+1	...	...	...
260	205	Cape	258	+2	...	5.1	17.4
440	254	Caradon	433	+8	...	2.5	35.0
214	128	-do- pf	209½	+2	7.2	4.3	∞
278	178	Cardo Eng	278	+3	8.6	3.9	19.8
2886	2025	Carnaud Mtl	2213	...	...	2.8	∞
82	68	Cassidy Bros	82	...	...	3.7	13.3
235	158	Castings	235	+3	4.6	2.4	16.6
71	53	Cathay Intl	65	...	...	...	...
230	217	Celltech	221	...	...	...	...
185	113	Chamberlin Hill	175	...	6.5	4.6	10.9
753	605	Charter	748	+5	...	3.7	11.5
345	220	Chemring	308 †	...	9.0	3.7	∞
92	45	Chieftain Gp	46	...	...	4.5	12.2
45½	15½	Chillington	40	...	...	1.0	3.2
232	144	Christies Intl	232	...	...	0.8	57.6
68	34	Claybithe	68	...	...	4.6	...
95	55	Clayton Son	55	...	...	...	...
415	295	Cohen (A)	415	...	3.4	1.0	...
245	170	Community H	245	+2	...	3.5	16.7
246	180½	Concentric	226	+1	5.8	3.2	∞
290	120	Cook (Wm)	280	+1	6.0	2.6	17.6
253	182	Cookson	253	+10	...	3.0	33.5
91	38	Copymore	91	...	...	1.4	27.8
238	130	Crwell Pkr 'A'	153	+2	...	4.7	20.7
178	92	Coral	111	...	5.3	6.1	∞
255	150	Creighton Ntl	255	+5	...	3.0	18.3
48	27	CrestaCare	39	+½	0.6	2.1	33.7
4006½	2985½	Dana	3956½	-6½	...	...	...
345	78½	Danka Bs Sys	345	+10	...	0.5	32.8
254	193	David Brown	253	...	...	3.0	17.9
22	5	Davies (DY)	18	...	...	...	...
879	632	De La Rue	874	+2	...	2.7	21.2
38	16	Dinkie Heel	38	...	1.1	3.6	30.3
585	391	Diploma	585	+33	13.6	2.6	∞
92	50	Dobson Park	91	...	3.7	5.2	∞
119	92	Dyson (J&J)	114	...	5.0	5.5	21.0
82	57	-do- 'A'	81	...	5.0	7.7	14.9
16½	8	EPG	14	...	...	...	...
440	356	EIS	408	...	...	3.7	16.2
28	19	Elbief	22	...	...	...	...
50	19	Eleco	48	...	...	...	0.00
2532½	1750	Electrolux 'B'	2450	...	...	2.1	...
73	43	Elliott (B)	72	+2	...	...	...
511	394	Eng China Cl	508	-27	...	4.9	29.6
140	111	Environmed	135	...	...	...	∞
3962½	1550	Ericsson 'B'	3762½	+12½	...	1.1	...
86	52	Eurocopy	85	...	1.7	2.5	∞
87	47	Expamet	80	...	...	5.0	4
777	499	Fairey Group	714	+26	10.7	1.9	22.0
121	47	Fenner	110	-1	...	...	...
87	32	Ferraris Group	87	+3	2.0	2.9	∞
29	13	Ferrum	13	...	1.4	13.5	9.1
66	28	File Indmar	60	...	...	5.7	...
251	102	Pisons	142	-6	...	7.7	13.2
58	29	Fitzwilton	58 †	...	...	7.6	...
288	215	Flogas	263	...	...	3.8	12.0
45	35	Folkes Group nv	45	+4	1.5	4.2	25.5
100	56	French (Thomas)	100	+2	3.0	4.5	50.2
262	162	Frost Group	262	...	...	2.1	33.9
88	70	GEI Int	78	-1	...	4.0	...
567½	434	GKN	567½	+7	...	4.5	∞
51	42	GR Hldgs	51	...	...	4.4	...
107	79	Garton Eng	107	+13	4.1	4.8	...
161	105	Gestetner	150	+3	8.2	6.8	6.5
68	23	Glevon	66	...	...	...	47.7
801	509	Glaxo	664	-15	...	4.1	17.4
38½	16	Glenchewton	36	-1	...	...	...
374	245	Glynwed	362	-3	11.6	4.0	34.1
138	66	Goode Durrant	138	...	...	4.9	...
185	102	Grampian Hld	177	-7	5.5	3.9	30.7
579	341	Granada	579 †	+26	...	1.9	24.0
455	301	Great Shrma	454	+2	...	3.1	19.7
117	73	Green (Ernst)	81	...	...	0.8	12.3
15½	8½	Greenacre	14½	...	...	2.6	14.3
17	5	Guardian Grp	6 #	...	...	...	...
69½	30½	Haden MacLn	69½	+½	...	3.6	25.1
102	44	Hadleigh Inds	98	...	...	1.3	...
240	115	Hall Eng	227	...	8.6	3.9	21.2
235	161	Halma	227 †	...	...	1.2	28.4
56	30	Hampson Ind	56	...	1.6	3.6	16.5
286½	222	Hanson	278½	+8	...	5.1	20.5
221	146	Harris (Philip)	150	+2	...	5.7	9.1
205	147	Harrisn Crsfld	196	+7	9.0	5.7	28.2
158	38	Havelock Euro	157	...	...	...	...
51	20	Hay (Norman)	38	...	...	...	...
40	17	Headway	40	...	...	2.2	...
13½	1½	Healthcare	1½	...	...	...	0.5
485	301	Hepworth	485	+20	14.8	3.8	20.9
228	160	Hewitt (J)	203	...	3.2	2.0	15.9
57½	15	High-Point	57	+2	0.5	1.1	...
186	112½	Hill & Smith	186	+5	...	3.8	25.9
19½	6½	Hobson	17½	+½	...	...	...
176	87	Holders Tech	172	...	...	4.4	22.4
52	30	Hopkinsons	45	-5	0.9	2.6	33.5
188	133	Hornby	185	+2	...	6.1	17.5
88	54½	Howden	84	+2	2.2	3.3	15.5
260	173	Hunting	234	+6	...	5.3	19.8
513	269½	Huntigh Tech	510	...	...	2.5	13.0
349	247	IMI	349	-9	...	3.6	31.0
128	90	ISA Intl	128	...	1.5	1.5	19.9
205	131	Intermec Gp	152 †	+1	...	2.9	∞
290	238	Isoron	290	+5	4.3	1.9	16.8
707	360	Jardine Math	622	-11	...	2.0	22.5
556	425	Johnson Matth	552	-3	...	2.4	21.5
64	35½	Johnson & FB	39½	+1	...	4.4	36.6
177	104	Johnston	160	...	3.2	...	...
32	19	Jones Shipman	27	...	...	...	...
35	18	Jourdan (T)	30	...	0.7	3.1	...
178	73	Kalon	159	+3½	...	2.8	22.1
297	195	Kelsey Ind	230 †	...	8.0	4.3	∞
750	465	Kershaw (A)	750	+10	22.0	4.5	38.9
276	75	Kleeneze	220 †	+1	1.0	0.5	∞
164	61	LGW	161	...	3.4	2.7	13.3
378	266	Laird	378	+11	...	3.5	18.6
157½	103	Lilleshall	145	...	...	3.8	19.1
223	97	Lincat	205	...	...	3.7	14.4
33½	4½	Lincoln Hsea	30½	...	...	...	...
128	76	Linread	113	+2	3.8	4.2	17.5
340	170	Linton Park	338	...	...	5.2	12.2
15½	9½	Lionheart	11½	...	0.2	2.1	...
22½	15	Locker (T) A	17	...	0.8	6.3	34.7
274	97	Lon Intl	154	-2	6.2	5.1	...
149½	70	Lonrho	149½	+4	4.0	3.3	...
388	269	Low & Bonar	375	+8	...	3.1	52.5
48	14½	ML Hldgs	48	+1	...	...	...
56	27	MS Intl	55 †	...	...	5.7	56.7
59	39	MY Holdings	50 †	...	...	3.1	13.2
233	168	Macfarlane	233	+2	...	1.8	26.4
460	379	McKechnie	459	+5	14.7	4.0	∞
126	85	McLeod Russel	126	...	...	6.1	18.6
106	63	Magnolia	100	...	0.1	0.1	16.1
132	71	Mang Bronze	130	...	2.5	2.4	∞
26½	19½	Marling	21½	+½	...	5.0	...
228	124	Mayborn	228	...	...	2.9	17.5
62	29	Mayflower	53	...	...	1.1	44.3
236	85	Medeva	149	+9	...	2.0	12.1
118	88	Meggitt	107½	-1½	...	4.5	18.3
125	98	Metalrax	117	...	...	4.0	19.1
154	112	Metroiec	121	+3	...	3.3	16.8
101	70	Metsec	101	...	...	...	...
98	29	Midstates	98	...	...	1.0	13.6
4½	½	Middlesex	4½	...	...	...	...
575	368	Molins	570	...	...	3.2	13.7
386	262	Morgan Cble	386	+7	...	4.1	20.2
184	134	Morris Ashby	176	...	...	4.1	13.2
39	18	Neepsend	39	+3	1.0	3.2	52.3
73	34	Nestor-BNA	65	...	3.1	6.1	15.5
239	122	Nobo Gp	239	-22	4.8	2.5	23.6
195	122½	Norcros	187 †	+2	...	4.7	27.3
51	33	Novo Group	35 †	...	...	3.9	11.2
413	310	Nu-Swift	399	...	...	...	∞
81	36	Office Elec Mac	58	...	...	...	...
63½	21	OMI Intl	62 †	...	...	3.5	...
165	123	PCT	160	...	...	5.7	18.2
91	36	Pacer Systems	86	...	...	5.0	...
138	87½	Penland	111	-4	...	3.0	15.1
395	285	Photo-Me	293	+3	4.6	2.0	19.0
186	97½	Pilkington	180	+2	...	1.6	...
95	68	Plantsbrook	95	+2	3.1	4.1	15.0
154	125	Polypipe	153	+5	2.1	1.7	20.7
42	15	Porter Chadbrn	22	+2	...	2.3	10.1
14½	5½	Porth Gp	12½	...	...	...	...
376	272	Powerscreen	339	+17	...	2.5	17.6
21½	16½	Prospect Inds	19½	+½	0.8	5.3	∞
65	33½	RPS Group	56	...	2.3	5.1	12.4
95	73	Radiant Metal	85	...	...	...	...
186	77	Ramco Oil	172	+16	...	0.7	57.6
1036	636	Rank Org	1034	+3	31.0	3.7	28.3
33	13	Ransomes	14½	+½	...	...	...
725	532	Reckitt Colm	698	-8	...	3.0	16.1
77	50	Record	70	...	3.6	6.4	34.4
7½	2½	Reece	4½	...	...	...	...
277	131	Relyon	270	...	5.0	2.3	32.4
305	208	Renishaw	301	-1	...	2.7	35.8
134	55	Renold	134	+1	...	1.6	...
1885	1240	Reuters	1864	-41	22.1	1.5	30.8
83	24½	Rexmore	77	-1	2.0	3.3	...
196	91	Ricardo Group	190	...	...	3.8	26.9
76	58	Richard (Leics)	71	...	3.7	6.6	...
98	63	Richardson West	91	+3	3.0	4.2	23.3
142	109	Ropner	136	+4	8.2	7.6	19.3
136	97	-do- 'A'	132	+4	8.2	7.8	18.7
38	14	Ross Gp	18	+1½	0.6	4.5	7.4
184	131½	Rotork	176	+2	...	2.6	20.6
107	89	Rubicon	167	...	...	3.3	23.4
66	43	Russell (A)	65	...	...	1.0	...
38	15	SEP Indl	38	-3	0.8	2.7	∞
1112½	625	SKF 'B'	1112½	+25	...	...	...
248	205	Scapa	238	+3	...	3.0	17.7
238	179	Scholl	182	+2	...	4.3	13.2
323	277	Scotia	289	+3	...	...	...
1165	917	Securicor	1163	...	2.6	0.3	44.3
895	562	-do- 'A'	895	+7	2.6	0.4	54.1
770	465	Security Serv	760	+11	5.1	0.9	37.6
139½	77	Senior Eng	136½	...	...	2.9	22.8
361	278	Seton Health	328	...	...	2.3	19.4
47	31	Sheldon Jones	33 †	...	...	...	...
166	88	Shiloh	130	...	3.0	2.7	15.1
344	271	Sidlaw	325	+5	...	4.0	16.1
587	427	Siebe	566	+5	...	2.3	19.8
383	220	Silentnight	366	+6	...	2.7	19.8
161	102	Sime Darby	166	...	...	3.2	∞
142	32	Simon Eng	134	-1	...	...	...
257	180	Sinclair (Wm)	187	...	...	4.7	14.6
47	35	Six Hundred	39	-3	...	4.8	...
164	134	Smith & Neph	156½	+4	...	3.8	17.4
573	372	Smithkline	395	+1	9.6	3.1	14.3
450	340	Smithkline Uts	359	-2	...	3.4	12.2
469	320	Smiths Ind	469	+9½	...	3.2	16.8
140	56	Slim Bas	76	-1	3.5	5.8	7.2
470	265	Spandex	470	...	...	1.8	20.9
660	500	Spear (JW)	550	+40	4.5	1.0	10.3
376	314	Spirax-Sarco	363	+1	...	3.2	22.8
145	44	Spring Ram	55½	...	...	0.5	...
250	201	Staveley	218	+5	...	4.0	12.3
224	136	Sterling Ind	204 †	...	...	3.6	31.3
194	97	Stirer	194	+7	9.0	5.8	20.3
612	244	Swire Pacfc 'A'	512	-41	...	1.8	∞
5	...	Sycamore	2½	+½	...	...	...
78	57	Sykes-Pick	53	...	...	7.3	10.1
173	120	Sylone	173 †	+2	...	3.5	25.0
442	259	TI	440	+9	...	3.1	30.1
34	12	TLS Range	33	...	...	0.9	...
340	211	TT Group	336	-1	...	2.5	20.7
273	221	Takare	273	+2	...	0.8	23.8
666	618	Takeda Chem	676	+3	...	0.9	12.8
66	34	Tex Hldgs	60	...	...	...	...
109	70	Tinsley (Eliz)	99 †	+1	...	7.1	17.1
240	150	Tomkins	219	...	...	2.4	∞
221	212½	Tomkins	262	+6	...	2.0	19.5
123	67	Trafalgar H	112 †	+6	...	2.6	...
116	61	Transfer Tech	78	+10	3.2	5.1	9.8
190	120	Triplex Lloyd	145 †	+1	...	6.1	17.2
111	98	Ugland	98	...	...	...	...
281	214	Unichem	279	...	6.4	2.9	18.3
375	279½	Unilane	365	...	...	3.5	∞
50	11½	Unigroup	36	...	...	...	...
1249	938	Unilever	1214	+9	22.2	2.3	16.5
8112½	6362½	Unilever (NV)	7687½	+50	...	2.7	13.0
24½	9	Utd Inds	17	...	...	...	...
945	513	VSEL	945	+17	...	4.0	10.2
18	6½	Verson	18	+1½	...	...	...
181	95	Vickers	181	+1	...	1.6	...
367	243	Victaulic	287	+4	...	3.4	14.2
450	283	Vinten	487	...	...	1.9	21.7
694	427	Vosper Thorny	680	...	...	3.0	15.8
48	33	WSP Hldgs	40	...	...	8.4	10.4
468	398	Wagon Ind	463 †	+5	...	4.7	30.4
8½	1½	Waterbourne	3½	...	...	...	19.1
106	71	Walker Greenbk	105	...	3.1	3.7	20.8
324	20½	Wassall	274	+10	2.7	1.3	27.6
50	22	Wrtford Wdgwd	50	+3	...	...	...
384	282	Weir	322	+3	...	2.4	18.2
995	600	Wellcome	689	+7	...	3.1	14.6
25½	16	Wellman	22½	...	0.9	5.0	36.7
359	263	West Hlthcare	359	-1	...	1.3	23.1
510	475	Whatman	498	+18	9.7	2.4	16.9
353	211	Whessoe	248 †	...	8.2	4.1	∞
95	27	Whitecroft	93½	...	...	...	...
10½	4½	Widney	10½	...	...	...	...
130	44	Wilkes (James)	128	+3	3.5	...	37.5
397	295½	Williams Hldg	397	+6	12.5	3.9	20.8
46½	27	Wilshaw	40½	...	...	1.7	35.5
878	573	Wolseley	870	+30	...	1.9	26.0
155	125	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	1.5	1.2	56.5
46	35	Wyte	42	...	...	3.0	...
52	36	Young (H)	82	-12	3.3	5.0	∞

INSURANCE

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1993½	1193½	Alex & Alex	1350	-12½	...	4.9	...
2406½	1787½	Am Gen	1925	...	...	3.8	...
75	30	Archer (AJ)	75	...	1.0	1.7	...
155	119	Bradstock	155	+1	5.5	4.6	∞
498	359½	Britannic	451	+1	...	3.2	...
676	556	Com Union	678	+17	...	4.4	...
1750	1225	Dom & Gen	1748	...	...	1.6	23.1
50	18	FAI	49	-1	...	...	...
752	546	Gen Accident	752	+12	26.7	4.4	...
236	160	GRE	232	-3	7.1	3.9	19.3
423	293	Heath C E	419	-2	...	4.8	...
228	148	Hogg Gp	163	+3	8.1	6.3	14.8
298	255	Independent Ins	298	+1	...	3.5	27.4
215	162	JIB Group	183	+1	...	5.1	18.8
546	408½	Legal & Gen	535	+3	...	4.5	32.5
1221	768	Liberty Life	1247	+9	...	2.5	19.8
121	99	LIMIT	118	...	...	...	...
468	403	Lloyds Abbey	448	+4	17.3	4.8	16.1
338	253	Lloyd Thomp	289	+6	6.7	2.9	18.0
395	274	Londn & Man	388	+1	14.7	4.7	28.6
445	321	Lowndes Lmb	444	+1	14.0	3.9	16.0
6743½	5256½	Marsh McLn	5443½	+25	...	3.3	...
130	76	Oriel	112	...	...	5.6	...
79	50½	PWS	78	...	4.0	6.4	11.3
383	282½	Prudential	382	+10	...	4.0	25.4
379½	266½	Refuge	335	+4	...	4.0	9.3
347	248	Royal	343	+6	...	2.4	...
204	150	Sedgwick	199	+5	...	3.8	24.5
261	100	Steel Burrill	134	+5	...	11.2	7.9
89	48	Sturge Hldgs	71	+7	3.0	5.4	∞
417	307	Sun Alliance	415	+4	14.2	4.3	...
88	50	Trade Indemnty	85	...	...	...	...
388	239	Transatlantic	386	+7	12.0	3.9	35.8
773	499	Utd Friendly	595	+2	15.1	3.2	25.9
244	171	Willis Corroon	243	+3	...	3.4	52.2
25	13½	Windsor	23	...	...	...	18.1

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1973	1548	Alliance	1973	+21	45.5	2.9	43.2
287	226½	Amer Trust	277	...	5.2	2.3	57.5
449	304	Ang & O'seas	447½	+2½	6.8	1.9	56.8
161	124	BZW Conv	160½	...	7.8	6.1	18.8
208	133½	Bankers	208	+4	3.6	2.2	∞
370	264	Baring Tribne	370	+2	6.4	2.2	58.5
203	131	Berry Starq	201	...	2.2	1.4	65.4
117	96½	Br Assets	114	+1	...	4.7	27.2
92½	57½	Br Empire Sec	92	-½	...	1.3	78.4
36	15	-do- Wnts	35	+1	...	...	...
220	156	Br Inv	220	+1	4.6	2.6	49.6
262	174	Brunner	262	-1	5.2	2.5	∞
220	130	Contl Asset	220	...	2.4	1.4	73.2
195	143	Derby Inc	156	...	...	11.4	9.4
320	195	-do- Cap	315	+2	...	...	...
97	62	Drayton Blue	96	...	8.4	10.9	10.7
88	35	-do- Eng Intl	86	+3	1.0	1.4	...
150½	84	-do- Far East	147	+1	0.6	0.5	...
165½	95	-do- Korea	165½	+4½	0.5	0.4	...
772	576	Dunedin Inc G	766	+2	...	4.2	35.2
100	76	-do- Japan	92	+4	...	...	...
55	34	-do- Warrants	54	+5	...	...	...
781	513	-do- Wrde	781	+6	...	1.5	...
307	222	Dundee & Lon	307	+4	...	3.7	35.2
348	250½	Edinburgh	340½	+1½	8.5	3.1	37.3
332	183	Electra Inv	330 †	+2	7.0	2.7	∞
207	141	Electric Gen	206½	+½	3.1	1.9	64.3
121	85	English Scot	121	...	...	...	...
341	205	European Asset	340	...	...	2.1	44.2
150	77	Finsbury 'A'	148	-1	3.0	2.5	47.6
323½	248	Fleming Amer	317½	-½	0.8	0.3	...
349	190½	-do- Claver	349	+2	...	2.7	49.1
363	212	Do Contl	360	-1	2.7	0.9	...
227	147	-do- Entp	227	+3	...	2.6	45.9
459	213	-do- F East	449	+2	1.1	0.3	...
376	246	-do- Fledg	376	+2	3.0	1.0	...
122	93	-do- Hi Inc	117	...	...	4.7	20.0
260	136	-do- Japan	239	+3	...	0.2	...
317	250	-do- Merc	316	+1	6.7	2.7	67.6
334	212	-do- O'seas	334	+1	4.2	1.6	64.9
296	203	Foreign & Col	296	+1	...	1.5	...
140	56½	-do- Emg Mkts	137½	-½	0.2	0.2	∞
74	44	-do- Enterprise	74	...	0.4	0.7	...
248	164	-do- Eurotst	247	-1	...	0.6	...
145	87	-do- German	135	-4	0.5	0.5	...
357	191	-do- Pacific	349	+1	...	0.8	...
184½	116	-do- Smaller	184½	+4½	1.8	1.3	...
272	145	GT Japan	263	+10	...	0.6	...
180	65	Genl Cons Cap	178	+1	...	...	...
123½	96½	-do- Inc	113	-½	...	9.3	11.7
177½	115	Govett Am Smlr	177	+1	...	...	...
144	94	-do- Emg Mkts	141½	-1½	...	...	...
429	184	-do- Oriental	418	-1	0.9	0.3	...
305	207	-do- Strategy	305	+8	...	2.8	42.6
429	340	Greenfriar	429	+1	...	1.9	64.4
19	5	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
154	124	Inv Cap	152	...	...	4.2	29.2
110	77	IBS UK Smllr	110	+1	2.8	3.2	30.7
236	155½	Kleinwort Chrt	233	+1	5.1	2.8	∞
264	176	-do- O'seas	262	+2	3.3	1.6	74.4
142	108	-do- Smlr	140	+1	...	3.1	33.9
832	540	Law Debenture	823	+4	18.5	2.6	41.1
226	164	Majedie	224	-1	...	2.8	41.8
315	221	Merchants	315	+2	...	4.4	29.3
2347½	1550	Merrill Lynch	2206½	-18½	...	...	...
589	383	Monks Inv Tst	589	+9	...	1.4	74.6
153	105	Morg Gren Inc	153	+2	4.5	3.7	∞
57	23	Do Warrants	57	...	...	...	...
64	39	Murray Euro	63	...	0.1	0.3	...
27½	4½	Do Wts	27½	...	...	...	...
389	282	Murray Incme	362	+2	10.9	3.6	36.5
394	266	-do- Intl	389 †	...	11.6	3.7	35.1
531	263	-do- Small	531	+6	...	1.2	...
103	86½	-do- S/C Inc	89	...	...	14.9	∞
150	73	-do- S/C Cap	150	+2	...	...	...
3200	2750	-do- S/C Uts	3175	...	...	4.2	∞
160	142½	-do- S/C DP	159½	...	...	...	...
357	230	-do- Wrts	356	+1	...	3.8	28.8
93	86	Nthrog Inc	93	...	8.7	9.2	17.2
386	249	O'seas Inv Tst	384	-1	...	1.0	...
647	285	Pacific Assets	601	-6	1.1	0.2	...
545	187	Do Warrants	505	-6	...	...	...
8900	7650	Personal Assets	8800	...	190	2.7	52.0
189	100	RIT Cap Ptnr	186	+1	1.1	0.8	...
127	108	Rhar & Merc	125½	...	9.2	9.2	12.5
465	350	Robeco	425	...	...	3.0	...
435	346	Rolinco	430	...	...	1.8	...
294	214	St Andrew Inv	294	+2	7.5	3.2	39.5
174	131	Scot American	172½	+2	...	3.4	36.5
371	136	Scott Asian	350	-4	...	...	...
1090	725	do Warrants	1023	-15	...	...	...
91½	63½	-do- Eastern	91	+1½	1.5	2.1	59.8
289	183	Scottish	288½	+2½	4.9	2.5	∞
255	178	-do- Mtge	255	+2	4.0	2.0	66.2
121	71	-do- Value	121	+1½	1.8	1.9	∞
1738	1390	Second Allnce	1737	+7	...	2.8	43.7
103	74½	Secs Tst of Scot	102	+1	3.2	4.0	33.7
171	109½	Selective Asset	171	+1	1.2	0.9	63.5
46	14	Sphere Inv	46	...	3.1	8.4	14.8
205	112	TR Far East	197	+2	...	3.2	37.5
167	126	TR City Of Lon	165	+1	...	3.7	35.6
249	110	TR Pacific	232	+6	0.3	0.2	...
41½	17	TR Property	40½	...	0.9	2.6	42.5
136	47	TR Tech Inv	134	-1	1.7	1.5	49.7
209	146	TR Smlr Cos	208	+½	...	2.3	48.1
399½	263	Temple Bar	390	+4	13.2	4.2	29.4
135	69	Throgm Asian E	132	+3	0.5	0.5	...
85	54	Throgmortn	85	+1	2.3	3.4	34.7
550	363	Throg Dual Cp	538	+3	...	...	...
257	178	USDC Invest	257	...	4.5	2.2	47.3
120	76½	Value Inc Tst	120	...	4.0	4.2	30.2
930	542	Whitbread Inv	925	...	16.5	2.2	55.7
249½	181	Witan	244	+1	5.6	2.9	42.7

LEISURE

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
513	269	Airtours	513 †	+17	...	2.2	16.4
64	41	Ald Leis	42½	-1½	...	5.8	13.0
474	194	Anglia TV	472	+17	...	2.5	21.0
103	63	Baldwin	80	+2	4.6	6.4	12.5
269	192	Barr & W 'A'	267	-1	10.0	4.7	17.2
1245	930	Boosey Hwks	1175	-5	22.0	2.3	17.6
158	90	Border TV	146	...	...	3.1	13.2
16½	4	Brent Walker	6	-½	...	...	...
150	49	Bristol Scots	113	...	...	...	...
9	2½	Buckingham Int	6½	-½	...	...	...
292	67	Campari	68	...	8.7	16.1	...
352	171	Capital Radio	352	+2	5.7	2.0	∞
968	718	Carlton Comm	968	-10	...	2.4	22.8
268	158	Castle Comm	268	+2	...	4.0	17.6
2995	1615	Central TV	2993	+29	39.0	1.6	32.6
124	61	Chrysalis	115 †	...	3.2	3.5	...
699	470	Compass Gp	699	+7	...	2.3	19.2
350	175	Eurocamp	364	+10	9.7	4.6	10.9
1180	268	Euro Disney	378	-2	...	3.1	...
8	1½	Euro Leisure	3½	+½	...	...	...
39	18	Ex-Lands	39	+1½	...	1.1	...
390	245	Fairline Boats	339	-2	...	4.0	31.2
378	232	First Leisure	294	-9	6.2	2.7	20.3
385	71	Flextech	379 #	...	...	0.2	...
690	298	GWR Gp	690	...	...	1.6	∞
246	149	Grampian	231	+2	6.5	3.5	16.0
22	4½	Greenwich Comm	15	...	...	...	...
115	19	HTV Group	115	+1	...	...	51.1
77	30	Hi-Tec Sports	77	+7	...	3.7	...
12½	5½	Kunick	12	+½	...	...	∞
666	406	LWT Hldgs	666	+18	...	0.9	30.8
600	327	Man Utd	545	+1	...	4.5	22.0
48	7½	Northern	35	...	...	...	...
148	59	Owners Abrd	89	+1	3.9	5.5	7.1
79	33	The Pelican Gp	79	+4	...	1.7	18.5
181	55	Prism Leisure	181	...	...	2.3	16.8
42	16	Quadrant Grp	38	...	...	...	...
435	274	Radio Clyde	435 †	+35	...	2.7	19.4
210	132	Ramsdens (H)	210	+1	...	2.7	27.0
553	410	Scot TV	459	-4	10.3	2.8	22.6
76	37	Southern Radio	76 †	+1	1.2	2.1	∞
324	168	Stanley Leisure	324	+13	4.3	1.7	25.6
10	5½	Sunleigh	7½	...	...	...	...
145	115	Sunset & Vine	128	...	3.5	3.4	19.5
420	345½	Tanjong	345½	...	...	0.5	18.7
2½	1	Ticketing	2½	+½	...	...	...
117	84	Tottenhm Hot	97	...	...	2.6	5.1
90	44	Trans World	90	...	...	1.1	32.8
523	274	Ulster TV	523	...	12.0	2.9	16.0
134	62	Vardon	113	...	0.8	0.9	26.7
22	11	Wembley	16½	+½	...	...	...
234	110	Yorkshire TV	179	+1	12.0	8.4	5.4
120	83	Zenith Gp	113	...	8.0	8.8	12.8

MINING

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
6518½	1800	Am Gold	6518½	+3½	...	3.5	28.8
1850	1018½	Ang Am Coal	1850	+31½	...	5.0	9.6
3675	1125	Ang Am	3900	-71½	...	2.0	29.5
33	8½	Anglo Pac Res	31½	+2½	...	...	...
197	33	Blyvoors	176	-4	...	...	...
46	18	Bracken	37	...	...	...	...
896	233	Buffels	896	-14	...	7.2	7.7
3½	1	Burte	3½	+½	...	...	...
878	546	CRA	849	-29	...	2.5	22.2
43½	11	Cluff Res	38½	+½	...	...	...
1687½	762½	De Beers	1681½	-3½	...	3.0	22.2
165	37½	Deelkraal	141	-3	...	1.4	10.2
96	7	Doornfontein	60	-10½	...	...	...
914	388	Driefontein	913	+27	...	3.3	15.0
788	120	Durban	762	-2	...	...	...
201	47	E Rand Gold	163	-4	...	6.7	4.8
175	35	E Rand Prop	109	-4	...	...	...
604	117	Elandsrand	448	-14	...	2.7	10.6
1239	282	FS Cons	1215	-10	...	4.0	15.6
80	8	FS Dev	54	-3	...	...	...
1800	725	GFSA	1768	...	...	2.3	29.3
150	62½	Gencor	149	...	...	6.0	16.7
71½	35½	GM Kalgoorli	70½	-1	...	2.0	28.9
22½	5	Greenwich R 'A'	15½	-½	...	...	...
202	49	Grootvlei	174	-4	...	5.9	10.7
400	78	Harmony	395	-5	...	...	...
430	85	Hartles	412	+5	...	7.0	10.3
16½	8½	Inoco	15½	...	...	...	...
1028	491	Impala Plat	1028	+9	...	2.8	33.2
13½	6	Kenmare Res	12½	-½	...	...	...
1315	332	Kinross	1232	-2	...	4.6	∞
913	319	Kloof	901	+28	...	2.4	10.7
137	25	Leslie	106	-3	...	10.3	∞
359	13	Loraine	322	...	...	...	...
950	620	Lydenburg	950	...	...	2.1	∞
127½	80	MIM	126½	...	...	1.8	54.0
1488	820	Minorco	1459	-1	...	2.7	17.2
176	91	Nth Brkn Hill	173	-3	...	2.9	26.6
3067½	612½	Orange Free	3062½	+25	...	4.2	17.6
847	607	RTZ	842	+10	...	2.9	23.8
212½	106½	Rand Mines	212½	...	...	5.4	∞
800	150	Randfontein	779	-2	...	3.8	7.6
252	115	Renison	248	+6	...	1.8	25.6
1350	650	Rustnbrg	1350	+12½	...	2.5	∞
756	191	St Helena	747	+4	...	3.3	15.4
2470	475	Southvaal	2438	-5	...	2.4	42.7
119	18	Sdlfontein	96	-3	...	6.6	17.0
201	58	Unisel	149	-4	...	4.7	∞
7600	1800	Vaal Reefs	7600	+375	...	2.9	13.3
813	154	Welkom	804	+19	...	4.2	18.1
640	26	Western Areas	593	+2	...	0.8	41.1
3362½	587½	Western Deep	3250	...	...	1.9	14.9
340	176	Wstn Mining	330	-10	...	1.5	...
1226	323	Winkels	1173	-52	...	3.4	∞
84	49	Zambia Copper	54	...	...	...	...
68	18	Zandpan	65	...	...	7.1	21.6

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
258	233	Abbey Panels	238	...	...	3.0	3.3 11.1
135	95	Airflow Stream	115	...	...	4.4	...
153	78	Appleyard	148	+7	...	4.4	...
338	203	Bletchley Mtr	338	...	...	3.4	17.2
192	120	Bostrom	180	...	6.0	4.2	31.8
468	165	Br Aerospace	439	+8	7.3	2.1	...
58	19½	Burndene	51 †	+1	1.3	4.3	∞
425	303	Caffyns	415	...	11.5	3.5	22.0
19½	4½	Caverdale	19½	...	...	...	...
143	98	Central Mtr	124	+1	...	4.0	31.5
36	18	Cook (DC)	35	...	...	3.2	19.9
299	156	Cowie (T)	299	+10	6.6	2.8	22.8
141	86	Dag Motors	139	+4	5.7	5.2	25.1
155	102½	Davnpt Vern	144	...	...	3.5	18.2
330	155	ERF	280	+2	2.0	0.9	...
151	92	European Mtr	151	+2	...	3.1	21.2
432	208	Evans Halshaw	432	+17	11.4	3.3	66.6
290	211	FR Group	245	+4	...	3.7	11.4
4393½	2845½	Ford Motor	4300	-12½	...	...	...
3893½	2143½	General Mtr	3893½	+56½	...	1.4	...
75	38	Gowrings	61	+1	2.0	4.1	...
301	85	Henlys	301	+11	3.5	1.5	...
1056	769	Honda Motor	964	+4	...	0.9	...
40	15	Jacks (Wm)	40	+2	...	...	...
108	66	Jessups	90	+4	4.5	6.3	...
176	97	Kwik-Fit	164½	+1½	...	2.7	23.2
484	281	Lex Service	482	+27	...	2.9	26.4
171	85	Lookers	171	+3	6.2	4.5	...
206	126	Lucas	206	+8	...	4.2	...
27½	21	Malaya Grp	25½	+½	...	...	...
292	224½	Pendragon	292	+3	...	2.7	24.0
193	101½	Perry Gp	193	+8	...	4.6	...
190	108	Quicks Group	160	+3	...	2.7	20.4
177	96½	Rolls-Royce	170	-1	...	3.7	...
236	164	T & N	232	+16	...	5.8	33.0
267	163	Trinity Hldgs	267	+4	...	2.6	25.0
193	125	Vardy (Reg)	193	+8	...	2.8	26.8
265	121	Westland	263 †	...	4.5	2.1	∞

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
208	103	Adscene	208	+8	5.0	3.0	21.3
360	315	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
608	290	Blenheim Gp	323	+6	...	3.6	12.0
378	275	Bristol	378	+8	...	4.0	34.1
£116½	7775	Daily Mail	£116½	+100	...	1.6	27.2
£116½	7700	Daily Mail 'A'	£116 †	+100	...	1.6	27.1
355	210	Dorling Kind	264	...	...	1.6	23.9
6550	4337½	Elsevier	6400	+37½	...	1.5	21.7
428	322	EMAP	425	-1	...	2.4	26.3
1525	873	Euromoney Pb	1500	...	...	3.2	26.4
264	160	Harrington K	160	...	4.7	3.7	13.1
373	155½	Haynes Pub	373	+3	...	1.8	21.0
363	334	Hodder H'line	341	...	5.1	1.9	29.0
140	99	Home Counts	123	+2	5.2	5.3	...
169	30	Intl Bus Comm	169	+6	...	...	24.5
14	6½	Int Com & Data	12	...	...	...	...
460	240	Independent	460	+20	...	2.7	24.6
580	395	Johnstne Press	554	+2	6.5	1.5	24.0
346	243	Metal Bulletn	346	+3	8.2	3.0	24.4
190	88	Mirror Gp	190	+6	...	...	...
515	297	News Corp	436	-3	...	0.3	...
301	169	News Intl	274	...	...	0.6	16.9
639	342	Pearson	628	+7	...	2.4	34.1
700	510	Portsmth Sund	700	+27	...	1.7	19.3
923	618	Reed Intl	905	+11	...	2.4	39.4
188	98	Southnews	188	+1	...	1.6	34.9
171	90	Sterling Pub	167	...	...	2.5	20.3
508	328	Telegraph	508	+6	...	3.0	21.3
835	715	Thomson Corp	785	...	30.1	4.8	39.2
438	313	Trinity Intl	437	...	9.0	2.6	26.2
39	21	Unit Group	28	...	...	...	...
685	480½	Utd Newspaps	662	-23	...	4.1	18.4

OILS, GAS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37	17	Aran Energy	29	+1	...	...	28.2
61	33	Arcon Intla	43	+1	...	...	...
71	41½	Aus Oil & Gas	61	...	...	...	...
83	26	Aviva Pet	66	...	...	...	...
16	3½	Beverley	7½	...	...	...	74.6
223	145	Br Borneo	209	+4	7.1	4.2	6.3
361½	276	British Gas	357½	+7½	14.2	5.0	17.3
378½	225	Br Petroleum	372½	+1½	8.4	2.8	29.3
2½	1	Bula Resources	2½	...	...	...	...
865	635	Burmah Castrl	863	+5	...	3.7	20.1
68	32	Cairn Energy	60	+2	...	...	8.6
334	223	Calor Gp	334	+6	...	4.5	18.2
60½	32½	Clyde Pet	48	...	...	...	...
44	27	Copley Res	29	+1	...	...	...
23½	10½	Edin Oil & Gas	20½	...	...	...	...
521	397	Enterprise	469	+7	...	4.3	25.8
88	26	Exp Co Louis	40	...	...	...	...
34½	19½	Fairhaven Intl	21½	...	...	5.0	7.8
10½	4	Fortune	4½	-½	...	...	...
67	45	Goal Pet	56	+1	1.4	3.1	10.7
48	18	Gt Western Res	31	...	...	...	...
181	104½	Hardy O & G	161	+2	...	0.8	15.0
46	18½	Kelt Energy	42	...	...	...	...
195	97	LASMO	128	+3	...	3.2	25.9
103	63	-do- Units	68	...	9.4	17.4	...
14	2	Mid Scot Ress	2½	...	...	...	...
57	34	Monument	56½	+½	...	...	...
9½	4	New London	4½	-½	...	...	...
37	21	Nth Sea Assets	29	...	1.0	4.2	10.0
49	27	Oil Search	49	+1	...	...	...
19½	11½	Petroz	19	...	...	...	...
162	99	Pict Pet	158	+1	...	...	...
29½	18	Premier	22½	...	...	...	9.4
168	50	Presidio	158	...	...	4.2	...
410	290	Ranger	340	...	...	4.6	...
7312½	5150	Royal Dtch Fl	7237½	+25	...	4.2	16.1
4500	3600	Schlumberger	4037½	+62½	...	2.0	...
67	47	Seafield	57	...	...	...	...
749	515	Shell	742½	+1½	22.8	3.8	22.6
203	173	Sunrise Eng Sv	185	...	...	...	...
41	15	Triton Europe	20	...	...	...	...
15½	6	Viller Grp	15	...	...	...	...
208	135	Woodside	200	...	...	1.4	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
175	120	AG Holdings	175	+2	...	3.6	15.9
425	249	API	425	...	8.2	2.4	∞
254	144	Arjo Wiggins	246	+9	...	3.3	34.7
545	408	Assoc Mead	545	+5	9.5	2.2	26.6
40	15	Aegis Gp	22½	...	...	...	...
212	118	Aspen Comms	169	...	...	3.6	15.3
26	7	BBB Design	26	...	...	...	...
429	223	Bemrose	426	+4	...	2.4	19.7
30½	7	Birkdale	10	...	...	...	...
158	118	Bunzl	156	+6	4.0	3.2	23.5
415	257	CIA Gp	413	+8	...	1.4	20.7
230	95	Capital Inds	134	+1	...	3.4	12.6
92	44	City of Lon	85	...	...	5.7	15.7
307	166	Cropper (James)	307	+2	3.2	1.3	29.6
95	51	Dolyn Group	90	...	1.6	2.2	12.1
120	94	Dolphin Pack	106	...	4.5	5.3	26.2
87	42	Dudley Jenkins	77	...	...	5.0	17.5
16½	10½	Elswick	15½	-½	...	2.4	17.3
79	41	Fairway Group	78	+1	3.2	5.2	22.0
364	271	Ferguson Intl	364	+1	...	4.3	16.5
137	92	Ferry Pick	137	...	...	5.1	27.0
197	74	Filofax	190	...	...	1.0	24.4
20	10½	Fitch	11½	...	...	...	...
154	69	Gibbon Lyons	141	...	...	4.5	15.3
296	205	Gold Greenless	306	...	9.4	5.2	16.7
41	17	Goodhead	23 †	...	0.0	0.5	∞
88	19	Hunterprint	25	...	...	...	...
196	156	Inleteurope	161	...	...	6.1	1.9
291	191	Jarvis Porter	251	+7	...	2.2	26.2
32	15½	Lopex	32	...	...	...	...
38½	26	MMI	35½	...	...	...	...
375	175	More O'Ferrall	375	+11	13.2	4.4	44.9
133	48	NMC Group	130	+1	2.7	2.6	25.1
241	66	Osborne & Little	241	+2	...	2.6	26.5
539	455	Portals	534	+16	...	2.4	16.6
3½	...	Premier Hlth	2	...	...	...	...
298	159	Quarto	298	+6	...	2.4	16.3
347	270	St Ives Gp	340	+1	...	2.6	22.4
186	133	Saatchi	148	+2	...	...	...
502	292	Sappl	501	+4	...	6.6	4.5
24½	6½	Sertla	24½	...	...	...	...
25½	14	Shandwick	20½	+2	...	...	...
429	294	Smith David	429	+4	...	2.9	22.5
328	206	Smurfit (Jeff)	328	+½	...	1.6	7.9
103	45	Somic	103	...	2.5	3.0	42.2
246	163	Stat-Plus	230	...	8.4	4.6	19.5
28½	16½	Taylor Nelson	26	+½	0.3	1.5	21.5
150	38	VTR	130	...	...	3.6	15.6
106	40	WPP	92	...	...	1.4	2.5
210	62	Wace	204	+16	...	0.8	...
265	203	Waddington (J)	255	+9	...	4.0	19.1
422	270	Watmough	422	+12	...	1.7	33.1
7	3	Westport	3½	...	...	...	...
42	12	Whitney Mck	41	...	...	...	...
102	55	Wyndeham	100 †	-1	...	1.9	21.4

PROPERTY

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
116	41	Allied Lon	111	+1½	...	4.0	26.6
47	35	Arcadian	38	...	...	...	...
16½	4½	Ascot Hldgs	6	...	...	...	...
138	52	Asda	134	+3	...	1.9	14.5
152	88	Avonside	150	+1	4.1	3.4	21.0
2637½	2062½	BCE	2337½	+12½	...	...	...
698	396	Bilton	698	+13	16.9	3.4	25.2
83	17	Bourne End	77	+5	...	1.6	...
270	150	Bradford	270	+12	5.9	2.7	27.4
23	5	Bredero	17	...	...	...	...
449	166½	Br Land	411 †	+2	...	2.2	37.4
250	140½	Brixton	241	+2	...	4.4	19.1
102	42	Burford	102	+½	...	1.6	...
195	99	Cap & Regnl	195	+1	...	0.8	...
230	120	Cardiff Prop	230	...	2.4	1.3	...
595	196	Chesterfield	594	...	11.5	2.4	42.5
43	12	City Site Ests	38	+2	...	...	...
35	12	Clarke Nickolls	29	...	...	...	...
548	285	Compco	285	...	12.9	6.0	61.8
53	34	Conrad Rbial GS	44	...	...	...	...
1475	818	Daejan	1475	...	...	2.5	18.2
65	5	Dares Estates	7½	...	...	...	...
135	53	Debenhm Twsn	134	...	...	2.8	26.1
17	4	De Morgan	17	+1	...	...	...
180	76	Dencora	179	+1	3.0	2.1	...
670	263	Derwent Hldgs	679	...	8.7	1.6	...
45	10	Development Sec	36	...	...	...	...
56	34	Dwyer	56	+1	...	...	...
400	170	Estates Agency	400	...	...	2.4	47.5
25	7	Estates Gen	21	...	...	...	...
217	132	Evans Of Leeds	217	+1	...	2.7	19.2
36½	11	Five Oaks	36½	+½	...	...	...
67	30	Fletcher King	66	...	1.0	1.9	43.4
515	276½	Frogmore	511	+4	...	3.9	24.6
250	97	Grainger	250	+7	5.2	2.7	∞
234	116½	Gt Portland	234	+5	...	4.3	22.4
20	3½	Greycoat	19½	+½	...	...	...
269	101	HK Land	233	-8	...	2.7	30.7
87	35	Hambro Cntyw	86	...	0.5	0.7	...
422	233	Hammerson	399	+1	10.0	3.1	40.4
326	127	Helical Bar	315	+2	...	1.9	11.3
39	19	Hemingway	35½	+½	...	...	...
132	56	Herring Baker	59	...	...	3.7	7.9 14.8
153	133	Jermyn	138	...	...	...	...
802	435	Land Sec	770	+2	23.1	3.6	23.0
114	75	Lon Merch Sec	107 †	...	4.0	4.7	16.6
22½	8½	Lon & Metro	11	...	...	...	...
565	315½	MEPC	516	+4	...	4.8	36.3
9	5	McInerney A	6	+1½	...	...	...
165	90	McKay Secs	165	...	3.5	2.7	22.6
7½	2½	Markheath	2½	...	...	...	...
81	12	Merivale Mre	79	+½	...	...	...
54	26	Moorfield Est	54	+1	...	...	...
1320	775	Mountview	1320	...	22.0	2.1	13.7
179	112	Mucklow (A&J)	179	...	...	4.3	27.9
53	30	Olives Prop	51	+1	...	...	...
10½	1½	ORB	1½	...	...	...	0.5
173	88	PSIT	170	+1	4.1	3.0	33.7
365	178	Peel	365	+1	4.0	1.4	...
16	4½	Power Corp	7½	...	...	...	...
48	25	Property Trust	45	+1	...	...	12.3
63	33	Raglan	41	...	...	...	...
35½	11	Regalian	34	...	...	...	...
140	110	Rowlinson Secs	140	...	1.5	1.3	17.5
50	16	St Modwen Prp	48½	+½	0.9	2.3	37.0
69	39	Saville Grdn (I)	65	...	...	1.2	32.4
97	39	Savills	91	-1	...	1.4	36.0
112	37½	Scot Met	104	...	...	1.8	∞
127	58	Shaftesbury	124	+1	...	...	...
15½	5	Shield	13	...	...	...	6.3
290	139½	Slough Estates	272½	+2½	...	3.7	19.1
101	56	Southend Prop	98 †	...	...	3.1	...
39	16	Stanhope Prps	35	...	...	...	...
230	114	Tops Ests	230	+1	2.1	1.2	...
137	79	Town Centre	137	+4	...	3.1	24.5
98	43	Trafford Park	94	...	...	3.7	21.6
56	17	UK Land	31	...	...	...	...
12	4	Union Square	9½	...	...	...	...
309	180	Warner	309	+3	10.4	4.2	28.2
229	108	Warnford	229	+4	7.5	4.1	16.6
8	2	Watergiade	2½	+½	...	...	...
95	34	Wates	90½	...	...	...	...
85	40	Wood John D	83	...	...	...	...

SHOES, LEATHER

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
32	11	Automagic	32	...	...	...	...
210	84	Headlam	206	-2	...	1.8	46.5
500	285	Lambert	315	...	13.2	5.3	7.7
100	44	Pittards	72	...	1.5	2.6	20.6
30	20	Strong & Fisher	22½	...	1.0	5.6	6.3
248	89	Stylo	247	...	...	1.5	...
66	53	UK Safety	57	...	...	5.7	1.9

TEXTILES

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
529	408	Allied Text	529	+2	12.7	3.0	17.0
69	54	Beckman (A)	56	...	3.5	8.0	∞
41	21	Bolton Gp	27	...	...	...	...
201	141	Br Mohair	201	+4	8.5	5.3	18.8
53	15	Chartwell	40	...	...	...	...
364	298	Claremont Ga	331	...	7.5	2.9	20.7
601	449	Courtauld Text	500	+18	13.9	3.5	13.7
53½	24	Cupid	25	...	...	...	...
248½	130	Dawson	142	+2	...	6.7	10.8
47	22	Drummond	36	+1	...	...	...
89	65	Faupel	79 †	...	...	7.8	12.2
34	15	Foster (John)	26	...	...	...	...
133	82	Gaskell	114	...	4.2	4.7	...
248	156	Hicking Pntcst	248	+2	...	2.1	17.6
90	45	Jerome (S)	67	...	...	0.4	...
422	249	Lamont	407	+8	12.0	3.7	26.9
515	353½	Leeds	506	...	8.5	2.1	∞
64	15	Lister	53	...	0.1	0.2	...
122	73	Lyles (S)	93	+4	...	4.4	...
215	89	Magellan	212	...	1.4	0.8	...
221	77½	Parkland	221	+9	...	1.0	...
102½	82	Readicut	99	-½	...	4.3	18.7
66	35	SEET	59	...	...	...	...
147	72	Sirdar	132	+1	...	5.1	9.1
72	44	Stirling Gp	62	...	1.9	3.4	17.2
51	35	Stoddard	39	-1	...	4.8	36.3
312	250	Tomkinsons	276	...	11.5	5.2	∞
59	30½	West Trust	35	+1	...	9.6	...
256	126	Yorklyde	256	+2	...	2.6	16.8

TOBACCOS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
570	407	BAT	563	+12	...	4.3	16.0
495	315½	Rothmans	473	...	...	3.3	14.9

TRANSPORT

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
568	349	Assoc Br Ports	566	+17	...	1.9	...
1071	707	BAA	1071	-10	...	1.9	26.6
482	249	Br Airways	492	+18	...	2.8	21.6
113	56	Clarkson (H)	106	...	1.7	2.1	...
665	332	Eurotunnel Uts	636	-18	...	...	...
82	44	Fisher (James)	73	...	0.5	0.9	19.6
274	147	IoM Steam	272	...	...	3.9	14.3
45	24	Jacobs (JI)	44½	+½	0.5	1.4	...
107	41	Lon O'Seas Frts	101	+2	...	1.3	18.5
475	264	Mersey Docks	444	...	...	2.5	30.2
271	187	Natl Express	251	+6	...	3.5	26.0
272	218	NFC	270	+19	...	3.2	20.9
343	241	Ocean Group	330	-3	...	5.4	...
73	40	Ocean Wilson	73	...	4.0	6.8	13.2
676	504	P & O Dfd	630	+13	...	6.1	34.2
194	127	P & O 5 1/2%	161	...	...	4.3	...
652	492	Powell Duffryn	652	+3	...	4.3	20.7
235	117	Sncon	235	...	...	2.9	14.6
171	112	Stagecoach	170	...	...	3.8	20.7
97	31½	TNT	97	+6	...	...	...
858	624	Tibbet & Britn	850	...	12.6	1.9	32.6
382	37	Tiphook	78	+3	...	...	...
298	222	TDG	292	+1	...	4.1	9.7

WATER

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
610	455	Anglian Water	555	+6	...	4.9	11.1
380	244	Mid Kent Hdgs	350	+1	...	3.8	12.9
761	547	Northumbrian	725	+21	...	4.0	8.5
604	431½	North West	563	+13	...	4.9	9.3
632	459	Severn Trent	598	+15	...	4.5	9.2
685	454	Sthrn Water	646 †	+7	...	4.2	10.4
1605	1225	Sth Staffs	1543	+8	48.5	3.9	11.0
657	465	South West	654	+24	...	4.8	10.4
598	454	Thames Water	575	+16	...	4.7	11.3
735	506	Welsh Water	666	+16	...	4.4	6.9
745	536	Wessex Water	718 †	+14	...	3.9	11.4
630	473½	Yorkshire W	595	+15	...	4.6	9.9

Source: Finstat

▲ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ‡ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
102$^{11}/_{16}$	100$^{3}/_{16}$	Treas 8¼% 1994	100$^{5}/_{16}$ †	...	8.48	5.25
109½	101$^{3}/_{4}$	Treas 14½% 1994	101$^{3}/_{4}$	-½	14.31	5.24
109$^{3}/_{4}$	101$^{3}/_{4}$	Exch 13½% 1994	102½	-½	13.19	5.19
105$^{3}/_{4}$	102	Treas 10% 1994	102	-$^{1}/_{16}$	9.80	5.10
110$^{1}/_{16}$	104$^{1}/_{4}$	Exch 12½% 1994	104$^{1}/_{4}$	-½	11.97	5.04
105$^{7}/_{8}$	103½	Treas 9% 1994	103½	...	8.72	5.01
111$^{1}/_{16}$	107$^{1}/_{16}$	Treas 12% 1995	107$^{1}/_{16}$ †	...	11.21	4.99
98	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	98	...	3.08	4.66
109½	107$^{1}/_{16}$	Exch 10¼% 1995	107$^{5}/_{8}$ †	...	9.53	5.07
116½	113$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 12¾% 1995	113$^{1}/_{4}$	-$^{1}/_{16}$	11.26	5.10
120½	116½	Treas 14% 1996	116½ †	...	11.99	5.18
125½	121½	Treas 15¼% 1996	121½	...	13.56	5.28
120$^{1}/_{4}$	115½	Exch 13¼% 1996	117$^{1}/_{4}$	...	11.29	5.29
112½	108½	Conv 10% 1996	111$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	8.94	5.42
122$^{1}/_{4}$	118½	Treas 13¼% 1997	121$^{1}/_{4}$ †	+$^{1}/_{16}$	10.93	5.54
114$^{3}/_{4}$	110$^{1}/_{4}$	Exch 10½% 1997	113$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	9.23	5.57
110½	105½	Treas 8¾% 1997	110½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	7.95	5.59
132$^{1}/_{4}$	127$^{1}/_{4}$	Exch 15% 1997	131½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	11.44	5.70
114$^{1}/_{4}$	109$^{1}/_{4}$	Exch 9¾% 1998	114$^{1}/_{4}$ †	+$^{1}/_{16}$	8.54	5.72
106½	99$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 7¼% 1998	105½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	6.88	5.63
106½	101$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 7¼% B 1998	105$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	6.85	5.65
102½	97$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	101$^{1}/_{4}$	-$^{1}/_{16}$	6.63	5.28
131½	125$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 14% 1998-01	130$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	10.72	5.90
140$^{1}/_{4}$	133$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 15½% 1998	139$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	11.09	5.74
126½	118½	Exch 12% 1998	125½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	9.58	5.90
116½	108½	Treas 9½% 1999	115$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	8.21	5.81

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101$^{7}/_{16}$	98½	Treas 6% 1999	101½ †	+$^{1}/_{16}$	6.05	5.73
128½	120½	Exch 12¼% 1999	127½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	9.60	5.98
121½	112½	Treas 10½% 1999	120½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	8.69	5.87
121½	112½	Conv 10¼% 1999	120½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	8.48	5.95
116½	106	Conv 9% 2000	115½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	7.79	5.91
136$^{1}/_{4}$	125½	Treas 13% 2000	135½ †	+$^{1}/_{16}$	9.57	6.19
106½	97$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 7% 2001	105$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	6.69	6.04
122½	109½	Treas 10% 2001	121½	-½	8.24	6.21
123½	108½	Treas 9¾% 2002	122$^{1}/_{4}$	-½	7.96	6.31
113$^{1}/_{4}$	97½	Treas 8% 2003	112$^{1}/_{4}$	-$^{1}/_{16}$	7.10	6.18
127$^{1}/_{4}$	109½	Treas 10% 2003	126$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	7.92	6.30
129$^{1}/_{4}$	116½	Treas 11½% 2001-04	128$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	8.93	6.42
96$^{1}/_{4}$	87$^{1}/_{4}$	Fund 3½% 1999-04	85½ †	+$^{1}/_{16}$	4.00	5.29
105$^{1}/_{4}$	97½	Treas 6¾% 2004	104$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	6.46	6.17
125$^{1}/_{4}$	105½	Conv 9½% 2004	124$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	7.64	6.32
125$^{1}/_{4}$	105½	Conv 9½% 2005	124$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	7.61	6.38
143$^{1}/_{4}$	124½	Treas 12½% 2003-05	142$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	8.78	6.57
111½	94½	Treas 8% 2002-06	110½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	7.22	6.33
112$^{1}/_{4}$	94$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 7¾% 2006	111$^{1}/_{4}$	+½	6.94	6.37
136$^{1}/_{4}$	118$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	135$^{1}/_{4}$ †	+$^{1}/_{16}$	8.70	6.53
119$^{1}/_{4}$	97$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 8½% 2007	118$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	7.18	6.43
151$^{1}/_{4}$	131½	Treas 13½% 2004-08	150$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	8.97	6.60
124$^{1}/_{4}$	101½	Treas 9% 2008	123$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	7.27	6.46

LONGS (over 15 years)

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
115$^{1}/_{4}$	92½	Treas 8% 2009	114½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	6.97	6.48
126$^{1}/_{4}$	100½	Conv 9% 2011	125$^{1}/_{4}$	+½	7.17	6.53
127$^{1}/_{4}$	100½	Treas 9% 2012	126½ †	+$^{1}/_{16}$	7.12	6.52
94	70½	Treas 5½% 2008-12	92$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	5.94	6.17
114½	89½	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	113$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	6.81	6.44
117½	93$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 8% 2013	116½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	6.88	6.52
159$^{1}/_{4}$	125$^{1}/_{4}$	Exch 12% 2013-17	157$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	7.61	6.70
128$^{1}/_{4}$	97½	Treas 8¾% 2017	126$^{1}/_{4}$	+½	6.91	6.52

UNDATED

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
54½	38½	War LN 3½%	53½ †	...	6.57	...
37½	27$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas 2½%	36½	+½	6.78	...

INDEX-LINKED

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
136$^{1}/_{4}$	131½	Treas IL 2% 1994	136$^{1}/_{4}$	+$^{1}/_{16}$	...	...
204½	194$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas IL 2% 1996	202½	+½	1.17	2.10
113$^{1}/_{4}$	105$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	112½	-½	1.35	3.00
176½	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	175$^{1}/_{4}$	-½	2.21	2.57
173$^{1}/_{4}$	155	Treas IL 2½% 2003	171½	+½	2.44	2.73
118½	105½	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	117½	+$^{1}/_{16}$	2.46	2.74
184$^{1}/_{4}$	159½	Treas IL 2% 2006	182½ †	-$^{1}/_{16}$	2.52	2.75
166$^{1}/_{4}$	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	166½	+½	2.69	2.89
175$^{1}/_{4}$	149$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas IL 2½% 2011	173½	+½	2.75	2.93
146½	122½	Treas IL 2½% 2013	144$^{1}/_{4}$	+½	2.86	2.95
157½	130$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas IL 2½% 2016	155$^{1}/_{4}$ †	+½	2.65	3.00
152½	124$^{1}/_{4}$	Treas IL 2½% 2020	150½	+½	2.89	3.02
129½	102½	Treas IL 2½% 2024	127$^{1}/_{4}$ †	+½	2.88	3.00
128$^{1}/_{4}$	103½	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	127 †	+½	2.90	3.02

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Round the World Race resumes

Smith's team may deprive Dalton of home victory



Lawrie Smith has high hopes that the crew of *Intrum Justitia* will take line honours in Whitbread fleet

"PORTS and women rot ships and men." That old-salt saying has a ring of truth about it as we prepare for the restart of the Whitbread Round the World yacht Race tomorrow. The month spent in Fremantle recovering from the rigours of the Southern Ocean has been great, but any longer spent in the heat and sun of western Australia would begin to wear down our competitiveness.

The crew of the European entry, *Intrum Justitia*, is ready to head out to sea again. We hoist sails tomorrow morning for the third stage with feet thawed out and everybody back up to his fighting weight.

Having led the fleet into Fremantle, the crew is optimistic about our chances on this short 3,272-mile dash round the bottom of Australia and across the Tasman. The hope on board is that we can not only lead the Whitbread 60 class, but beat the maxis again and rob Grant Dalton's *New Zealand Endeavour* of victory in his home port.

The 18-20 knot south westerly winds predicted for the start should give the Whitbread 60s an edge over the maxis on the leg down to Cape Leeuwin and if we meet headwinds again in the Tasman, then Dalton's New Zealand maxi crew could be left contemplating slashed wrists in sacrifice.

This is not a leg where one boat is likely to break away from the fleet. With weather gates expected at Leeuwin and Tasmania, we are prepared for a hard battle, certainly within the Whitbread 60 class.

The long stopover has given us the chance to make several changes to the yacht. First and foremost, we have plugged all the leaks that made life so wet and unbearable below decks.

The boat has been given a full service and we have made a number of performance improvements to the rig, including reshaping the mainsail and replacing four of *Intrim Justitia's* running and reaching sails.

Another addition welcomed by the crew is more food. Troops fight best on full stomachs and after we all lost several kilos during the last 7,500-mile stage from Uruguay, I have increased everybody's daily calorie intake from 4,300 to 5,000.

Instead of relying almost exclusively on freeze-dried food, the menus now include pasta, cereals and sugar, with chocolate kept at the ready as treats for when we make good daily runs.

Chris Dickson's *Tokio*, which holds an 11½-hour hold over the fleet, remains our greatest rival, but *Winston*, with Dennis Conner back on board, Ross Field's New Zealand entry, *Yamaha*, or the Spanish yacht, *Galicia 93*, could just as easily take line honours. The only safe prediction is that the finish at Auckland will be close run.

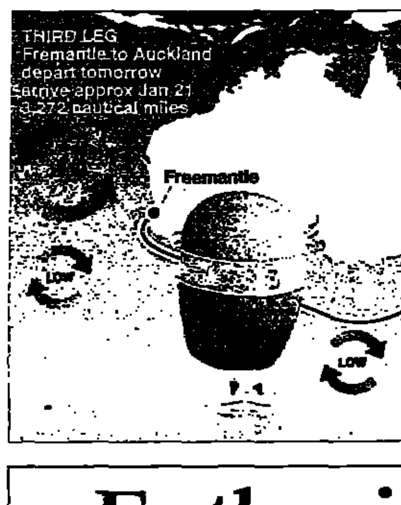
Having endured more than enjoyed the first stage of this race from Southampton, Conner's return as co-skipper on this leg came as a surprise, particularly to his crew. But this shorter leg could suit the American's style a little better.

It also means that he will be on hand in Auckland to fight *Winston's* corner when the jury come to review the generous allowance given to her crew for the time it lost turning back towards the stricken Italian yacht, *Brooksfield*, during the last stage.

For the moment, *Winston* holds second place overall, thanks to that 22½-hour allowance which lifted the American boat three hours ahead of us — a time we now hope to more than recoup on the water.

If the winds remain as predicted, the leading crew can expect to set another record, arriving in Auckland as early as January 21. My bet is that honours will fall once again to a Whitbread 60 yacht. Do I have any takers back home? After *Intrum Justitia's* record run during the last leg, there are not many round here prepared to put money on the maxis.

☐ *Lawrie Smith, 37, won an Olympic yachting bronze medal in 1992. He has twice been an America's Cup skipper and this is his third Whitbread race. He is writing exclusively for* The Times *on the race.*



Ross wary of Tasman challenge

By Barry Pickthall

THE battle between the maxis and Whitbread 60s resumes off Western Australia tomorrow when the 14 yachts in the Whitbread Round the World Race set out from Fremantle at 2pm local time (5am GMT) for the 3,272-mile sprint to Auckland.

After 14,000 miles, just 2hr 47min divide Tokio, Chris Dickson's New Zealand-Japanese 60-footer, from Grant Dalton's maxi New Zealand Endeavour, which lost the top ten metres of her mizzen mast during the stage from Punta del Este, Uruguay.

Many skippers share Lawrie Smith's view that headwinds at the start will give the 60-footers the initial advantage, though Murray Ross, Dalton's former navigator, who has replaced Godfrey Cray on the New Zealand 60, Yamaha, is less convinced. "From my studies, a well sailed maxi should beat a Whitbread 60 by 13 hours," he said yesterday. "More than likely, we will be on the wind to Cape Leeuwin ... but the Tasman Sea could give us anything," he said yesterday.

Andrew Cape, the Australian navigator on Tokio, was less concerned by the weather. "The start will be very important. Compared to other legs, it is going to be a case of speed rather than tactics," he said.

Mike Quilter, his opposite number on New Zealand Endeavour, is hoping for the lighter winds that will benefit the maxis. "Much will depend on where the high pressure system is," he said. "There could be lot of wind or none at all. If the high pressure system [presently West of Perth] is parked, then this leg could be tricky. We will have to pass through it, go below it and pass back through it again. Anything could happen."

Much is now expected of Dawn Riley and her women's crew in the yacht that was renamed Heineken during the Fremantle stopover. The sponsorship funds injected into the boat by the brewery has been spent on new sails and improved equipment. The women lie seventh overall, more than 30 hours behind Guido Maisto's hapless Italian entry, Brooksfield, which has lost No 2 crewman, Mauro Palaschier, in the crew shake-up that followed the yacht's near sinking in the Southern Ocean.

Lawrie Smith, the Intrum Justitia skipper, will make a conference call via satellite telephone at 2pm tomorrow to answer questions from visitors to the London Boat Show.

POSITIONS

After two stages

WHITBREAD 60 CLASS: 1, Tokio (C Dickson, NZ) 50 days 03hr 07min; 2, Winston (D Conner and B Butterworth, US) 50:14:29; 3, Intrum Justitia (L Smith, Eur) 50:17:19; 4, Yamaha (R Field, NZ) 50:17:58; 5, Galicia 93 Pescanova (J de la Gandara, Sp) 50:18:41; 6, Brooksfield (G Maisto, It) 56:14:03; 7, Heineken (D Riley, US) 57:20:53; 8, Hetman Sahaidachny (E Platon, Ukr) 58:01:02; 9, Dolphin & Youth Challenge (M Humphries, GB) 59:22:45; 10, Odessa (A Verba, Ukr) 74:00:27

MAXI CLASS: 1, NZ Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ) 50:06:16; 2, Merit Cup (P Fehlmann, Switz) 50:12:53; 3, La Poste (E Tabarly, Fr) 51:23:00; 4, Uruguay Naturaly (G Vazon, Uru) 60:13:08.

Information provided by BT



Riley ready to set sail at dawn. Photograph: Stephen Munday/Allsport

Radcliffe's success lures TV cameras to Belfast

By David Powell
Athletics Correspondent

A CLEARER indication of Paula Radcliffe's potential to make an impact on the world cross country championships in March will be provided today when, a week after her victory over Zola Pieterse in Durham, she races Catherina McKiernan, the double world silver medal winner, at Mallusk, Belfast.

Featuring, as it does, the best woman cross country runner in Ireland's history, and a former British world junior champion now growing in stature in the senior ranks, the women's race will command the main interest.

Radcliffe's win last week has to some extent been responsible for *Grandstand* coming back for more cross country today, with a late insert into their schedule: women's race only.

It says much for McKiernan and Radcliffe that they should headline the meeting when the men's race includes Ismael Kirui, the Kenyan who won the 5,000 metres at the world championships in Stuttgart. However, come the cross country world championships in Budapest on March 26, there is probably more chance of a Kirui victory than one for either McKiernan or Radcliffe, especially if the Chinese contest the women's race.

Kirui blamed the beginnings of a cold last year for finishing "only" third; furthermore, he should really have been in the junior event. "He was young enough to run the junior race but decided that, as he was the junior champion, there was no point," John Bicourt, Kirui's London-based manager, said.

The same applies this year. Not a senior by age until 1995, Kirui, 18, is eligible, again, for the junior event; but, as a senior bronze medal winner from 1993, quite apart from that little spin in Stuttgart when he broke away after six laps to become the sport's youngest senior world champion — barely old enough to drive the Mercedes he won — there is no going back. "I will run the senior race in the world championships," he said yesterday.

Kirui is the brother of Richard Chelimo, who set a 10,000 metres world record last summer before another Kenyan, Yobes Ondieki, broke 27 minutes.

Though not near peak fitness, having returned to training only five weeks ago after his post-Stuttgart rest, Kirui should win, provided his heart is in it. The presence of Joseph Kaino, another Kenyan, should ensure there is no repeat of Durham, where Haile Gebresilasie won the men's race in a canter.

According to Bicourt, the meeting director, Kirui is appearing in Mallusk as a favour to him — "for considerably less than he would normally."

Bicourt's budget, he estimates, is one-third of Durham's. If so, he has done well; his entries appear at least as good. He is confident that both races will be of sufficiently high standard to count towards the World Cross Challenge: Durham's women's race failed.

Enthusiasts take to the waves on journey of a lifetime

David Miller watches a group of amateur sailors set to sea from Gibraltar to realise a dream

MATHILDE Damigella yesterday set off around the world: 24,000 miles over 15 months, learning English on the way. She was due to leave on Thursday, but awoke to a severe gale, a force nine, the Straits of Gibraltar a fury of foam-crested rollers. So she had to wait until yesterday morning for the start of her big adventure.

Sir Edward Heath fired the cannon here that launched the second *Europa Round the World* Rally in ideal conditions. Not even that old salt, when in his Admiral's Cup prime, would have wished to be at sea on Thursday, with the palm trees on the Rock bent over like question marks by a howling westerly that pounded the harbour and would have been on the nose until the yachts were sufficiently round the corner of Africa and free to reach south towards the first stop in the Canaries.

Not that Mathilde knows too much about what lies ahead. "No problem," she said with a grin, having fun grappling with foreign languages as she greeted guests aboard the 52-foot Italian sloop of her father, Giancarlo, a sailing instructor near Venice. Mathilde, it should be said, is aged two years and eight months and, although the second step of the companionway from below deck is up to her chin, she beetles about the boat as lively as any powder-monkey of Nelson's day (they brought the Trafalgar hero's body here preserved in a barrel of rum).

The Damigella family, including mother Nazarena, epitomises the entries in this remarkable rally-cum-race — the realisation of a dream for many ordinary sailors of the kind thronging the Boat Show in London. Devised by Jimmy Cornell — whose World Cruising company has organised eight previous Atlantic rally for cruisers (ARC) events involving some 1,500 boats — the circumnavigation rally embraces, during its 20 legs, some of the world's most romantic places — including the Galapagos Islands, Marquesas, Tahiti, Fiji, Tonga, Bali, Singapore, Djibouti and Crete.

So successful was the first rally in 1991-2 that six other owner-skippers besides Damigella are back again, though the only returning boat is Dino Blancodini's 57ft Sea Eagle, *Twilight*. Despite a concession this time to permit sponsorship, the only one of 26 starters from nine nations to take advantage is Damigella's auto spares-backed *Graf Parts*.

This is an event for amateur enthusiasts, such as John Lawrenson, whose Dutch-built Nordia 54 is named *Tigre* — in honour of Caroline, his Brazilian wife — which is a north Brazilian word for Jaguar, with which her father was involved as environmentalist. Lawrenson, due to retire in two years, will attempt to run his Suffolk publishing business by satellite from mid-Pacific. Or wherever. "If there are crises back home ... well, there are crises!" he said with some abandon.

Thirty years ago, he was a Reuter's colleague of the late Vernon Morgan, relying on adequate Spanish to camouflage his slim football knowledge when reporting the World Cup finals from Chile. "I could never have dreamed then of owning a boat," he reflected. Wearying of Fleet Street's hazards, he set up independently in legal publishing, took off, as they say, and now is reaping a rare kind of reward.

Friends of his, interchanging as crew at various ports, are contributing substantially to the running costs, a common practice among many boats. The entry fee is £6,900 plus £500 per person, covering all port dues and transfers through Panama and Suez. It is estimated that provisioning and installation of rigorously-supervised safety equipment costs a further £100 per person per week — that is £6,000 per head for the complete circumnavigation among an average crew of five.

There are three divisions: one, strictly racing with no motoring permitted; two, cruising with limited motoring, on a rating-efficiency basis, to combat areas of light wind; three, open. Cornell and a colleague have designed a simple propeller-shaft counter that can monitor engine-time and conveniently avoids sealing engines on racing boats that might briefly need to motor in an emergency, like, for example, collision avoidance.

Another east coast enthusiast from Britain is Max Scott, a printer from Clacton, who sets off with his wife, son and daughter in their Oyster 55, *Wayzgoose* (the derivation of the name: 17th century annual outing provided by master printer for his staff before the autumn start of work by candlelight). His daughter has just qualified professionally and his son received a redundancy pay-off, so the timing is perfect.

The race, part sponsored by the Gibraltar Tourist Board, attracts all sorts. The 45ft *Resolution* is skippered by George Parkinson, a jazz musician from New York, while the British *Durton* has on board among the crew a policeman from Surrey.

Although speeds vary among the three classes, Cornell estimates that no boat will ever be more than 100 miles from a colleague for assistance in case of emergency. Each vessel has to make confirmation radio calls twice a day, on this journey of a lifetime.

Weekend, page 1

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Southwell

Going: standard

12.50 (7f) 1, AKABUSI (L Detton, 2-1 fav); 2, Swinging Tich (A Mackay, 12-1); 3, Queens Consul (Alex Greaves, 11-4). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Surprise Guest (4th), 9 Rosie O'Reilly, 20 Governors Lady (5th), 33 Cramona, Distant Spring (6th), Ya Mau (pu). 9 ran. NR: Who's Crying Now. 1½l, ¾l, hd, 3½l, 7l. Lord Huntingdon at West Ilsley. Tote: £2.60; £1.20, £1.50, £1.40. DF: £10.40. CSF: £24.45.

1.20 (1m) 1, JUST HARRY (D Biggs, 11-8 fav); 2, Dame Prospect (T Williams, 12-1); 3, Queens Stroller (J Quinn, 9-4). ALSO RAN: 4 Northern Storm (4th), 10 Nordico Princess (5th), 20 Avondale Rose (6th). 6 ran. 3½l, ¾l, 7l, 10l, 3l. M Ryan at Newmarket. Tote: £2.10; £1.10, £2.50. DF: £9.00. CSF: £15.34.

1.50 (1m) 1, NO SUBMISSION (L Detton, 3-1 jt-fav); 2, Clairification (J Williams, 6-1); 3, Early Star (Alex Greaves, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 3-1 jt-fav Dorazino (5th), 15-2 Bold Pursuit (6th), 8 Always Risky, 12 Top One, 20 Juvenara, Red Fan, Yunus Emre (4th), 25 Gypsy Legend, Victor Romeo, 33 Night Fantasy, Super Win. 14 ran. NR: Air Command, Pair Of Jacks. 4l, 3l, hd, nk, 1½l. D Chapman at York. Tote: £4.00; £2.30, £2.50, £3.50. DF: £15.10. CSF: £21.58.

2.20 (7f) 1, RAD (W Woods, 5-1); 2, Venture Fourth (S Knott, 25-1); 3, Silver Stone Boy (S Webster, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Jolly Swagman (4th), 6 Westering (6th), 7 Dances With Gold, 8 King Of The Horse (5th), 10 In Demand, 16 Capital Lady, 20 Trail Of Tears. 10 ran. 2½l, 3l, 1l, 1l, 1½l. S Woods at Newmarket. Tote: £7.30; £1.80, £5.40, £2.80. DF: £87.70. CSF: £101.55.

2.50 (6f) 1, WARWICK WARRIOR (J Weaver, 3-1); 2, Britannia Mills (D McCabe, 16-1); 3, Cazanove's Pet (C Hawksley, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 11-4 fav Captain Carat (6th), Just Greenwich (5th), 8 Croft Pool (4th), 12 Red Grit. 7 ran. 5l, ¾l, 1½l, 1½l, 3l. P Haslam at Middleham. Tote: £4.30; £2.60, £6.00. DF: £19.30. CSF: £39.63.

3.20 (1m 3f) 1, SPORTING SPIRIT (Mr M Kneafsey, 50-1); 2, Barley Cake (Miss Diana Jones, 10-1); 3, Gold Surprise (Mrs D Kettlewell, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 4-6 fav Tempering (4th), 7 Mexican Dancer, 8 Green's Seago, 9 La Temeraro (5th), 12 Diamond Inthe Dark (6th), 25 Breezed Well, 50 Lazy Rhythm. 10 ran. Hd, 1l, hd, 3l, nk. D Chapman at York. Tote: £38.00; £7.50, £3.80, £3.00. DF: £89.80. CSF: £431.16.

3.50 (1m 4f) 1, ROYAL CITIZEN (L Detroit, 7-1); 2, Noble Measure (J Quinn, 16-1); 3, Premier Dance (S Whitworth, 11-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 jt-fav Pontynyswen, Well And Truly (4th), 5 Master's Crown, 11 Eurythmic (5th), 12 Borocay (6th), Flashella, 16 Marathia, 25 Chequers, Lemhill, 33 Doctor's Remedy. 13 ran. Nk, 3½l, 2½l, ¾l, 5l. J Bottomley at Malton. Tote: £8.00; £2.30, £1.70, £4.20. DF: £128.30. Trio: £384.80. CSF: £101.54. Tricast: £1,114.37.

Jackpot: not won (a pool of £3,176.93 carried forward to Lingfield today).

Placepot: £8,919.90.

Edinburgh

Going: good (good to firm in places)

12.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Outset (Mr C Bonner, 5-1); 2, Taen Girl (8-1); 3, Oakley (25-1). Three Strong 7-4 fav. 15 ran. 10l, 5l. M Hammond. Tote: £4.10; £2.00, £2.60, £10.00. DF: £22.40. CSF: £43.69.

1.00 (2m 4f ch) 1, Classic Contact (J Callaghan, 5-4 fav); 2, Over The Island (11-4); 3, Capital Punishment (7-2). 6 ran. 1½l, 30l. N Mason. Tote: £2.90; £1.20, £1.60. £1.30. DF: £5.10. CSF: £4.32.

1.30 (2m hdle) 1, Reluctant Suitor (D Bentley, 3-1 fav); 2, J P Morgan (8-1); 3, Cheeky Pot (12-1). 13 ran. 2l, 1½l. M Hammond. Tote: £4.10; £1.80, £2.50, £5.10. DF: £23.80. Trio: £80.40. CSF: £26.77. Tricast: £237.44.

2.00 (3m ch) 1, Donegal Style (A Maguire, 7-1); 2, Silver Age (9-4 fav); 3, Juniors Choice (4-1). 11 ran. 2½l, 8l. J Johnson. Tote: £8.30; £2.40, £1.50, £1.90. DF: £16.20. Trio: £32.50. CSF: £22.81. Tricast: £88.16.

2.30 (2m hdle) 1, Genseric (R Garritty, 11-8 fav); 2, Regal Aura (7-4); 3, Bend Sable (9-1). 8 ran. NR: Panther. Hd, 6l. T Tate. Tote: £2.60; £1.10, £1.70, £1.90. DF: £2.70. CSF: £4.04.

3.00 (2m ch) 1, One For The Pot (T Jenks, 3-1 fav); 2, Sonsie Mo (100-30); 3, Maudlins Cross (9-2). 7 ran. 1½l, 12l. M Naughton. Tote: £3.60; £1.90, £1.60. DF: £4.30. CSF: £11.91.

3.30 (2m flat) 1, Call Equiname (F Perratt, 5-1); 2, Bentooth (20-1); 3, Slaught Son (9-2). Menaffia 4-1 fav. 14 ran. 15l, 4l. D Eddy. Tote: £10.20; £3.60, £5.60, £4.40. DF: £149.60. CSF: £94.80. Placepot: £22.50.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ROVING MINSTREL
(7.50 Wolverhampton)

Next best: Sunday Punch
(1.40 Warwick)

LINGFIELD PARK

☐ **Due to doubts surrounding the meeting at Haydock Park, the Tote Jackpot today has been transferred to Lingfield Park.**

THUNDERER

12.55 Awesome Power. 1.25 Playing Tricks. 1.55 Perfay. 2.30 Muzz. 3.00 Agwa. 3.35 Brooks Express.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

12.55 SNOWDROP APPRENTICES CLAIMING STAKES (£2,569: 1m 2f) (14 runners)

101 003- JEROBOAM 6 (G) Allan Smith (Bel) 6-9-10 ... Martin Smith 1
102 23-1 AWESOME POWER 7 (CD,G) J Hills 9-9-7 ... M Henry (7) 7
103 050- RUBY COOPER 8 (G) P Howling 4-9-2 ... Debbie Biggs (5) 2
104 000- CASTLE BIDDER 8 (V,G) Allan Smith (Bel) 5-9-1 ... Shaun Graham (5) 12
105 160- EXHIBIT AIR 18 (D,F) R Hannon 4-8-13 ... D O'Neill (5) 13
106 540- RAVE-ON-HADLEY 11 A Bailey 4-8-12 ... W Hawksley (7) 4
107 606- LONG FURLONG 15WJ (D,F,G) R Akehurst 6-8-9 ... L Carter 9
108 450- SPECIAL RISK 18 R Akehurst 4-8-9 ... R Morgan (7) 10
109 /00- ERETRIA 8 Lord Huntingdon 5-8-4 ... J Wilkinson (5) 11
110 34/ MISSISSIPPI MAID 454 W G M Turner 4-8-4 ... M Baird 8
111 500- DOCK OF THE BAY 21 P McBride 4-8-3 ... Nicola Howarth (3) 3
112 006- LITTLE MISS RIBOT 18 R O'Sullivan 4-8-1 ... A Martinez (5) 14
113 50-0 CHILTERN HUNDREDS 7 (B) W Musson 4-8-0 ... A Whelan (5) 5
114 00-5 KINCHENJUNGA 7 (B) W Muir 4-7-12 ... G Adamson (5) 6

7-4 Awesome Power, 11-4 Exhibit Air, 6-1 Special Risk, 10-1 Chiltern Hundreds, 12-1 Eretria, Jeroboam, Long Furlong, 16-1 others.

1.25 COWSLIP MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £3,028: 1m 2f) (13)

201 000- CLASSIC MELODY 56 R Hoad 9-0 ... C Rutter 8
202 0- DAWN ROCK 82 P Kelleway 9-0 ... M Wigham 3
203 04- GOLDEN HADEER 25 R Harris 9-0 ... J Quinn 4
204 440- MYTTON'S CHOICE 12 A Bailey 9-0 ... S Whitworth 10
205 PLINTH N Graham 9-0 ... J Weaver 12
206 0- SIR DANNY 25 N Graham 9-0 ... J Williams 5
207 000- ESOTERIC 18 P Mitchell 8-9 ... W Newnes 11
208 504- GROVE PRIMROSE 47 M Tompkins 8-9 ... S Mulvey (7) 1
209 4-3 LA SPAGNA 7 (BF) M Prescott 8-9 ... C Nutter 7
210 03- MRS BIZZYBODY 18 T Naughton 8-9 ... Paul Eddery 13
211 66- PLAYING TRICKS 179 W Haggas 8-9 ... M Hills 2
212 65- SHUTTLINGSLOW 82 M Bell 8-9 ... M Fenton (3) 9
213 45- SUCCESS STORY 12 Lord Huntingdon 8-9 ... L Detton 6

4-1 La Spagna, 9-2 Playing Tricks, 5-1 Grove Primrose, Success Story, 6-1 Golden Hadeer, Mytton's Choice, 12-1 Shuttlingslow, 14-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Wolverhampton: 7.50 Wenlock Lad, 8.50 Ginger Flower.

1.55 DAFFODIL HANDICAP (£3,202: 1m 4f) (6)

301 6/2- ELEMENTARY 11 (D,F,G) N Walker 11-10-0 ... S Dawson 6
302 464- RAPPORTEUR 40 (CD,F,G,S) C C Elsey 8-9-12 ... W Newnes 2
303 154- PERFAY 12 (C,G,S) D Wilson 6-9-4 ... L Dettori 1
304 63-0 CASPIAN BELUGA 7 (CD,G,S) Mrs A Knight 6-8-10 ... J Quinn 3
305 131- BIG PAT 131 (D,F,G) J Spearing 5-8-10 ... J Tate (5) 4
306 052- SLIGHT RISK 8 (C,G) P Kelleway 5-8-6 ... Paul Eddery 5

5-2 Rapporteur, 7-2 Perfay, 4-1 Elementary, 5-1 Big Pat, 6-1 Caspian Beluga, Slight Risk.

2.30 VIOLET HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £3,056: 5f) (6)

401 051- MUZZ 23 (D,G) M Johnston 9-7 ... J Weaver 1
402 616- NAME THE TUNE 18 (CD,G) P Howling 9-6 ... D Biggs 4
403 213- RANDOM 18 (CD,G) C James 9-6 ... C Hawksley (7) 3
404 415- CASPIAN GOLD 179 (D,G) C Allen 9-5 ... E Guest 6
405 43-5 IVA'S FLYER 4 (D,BF,G) J Berry 9-5 ... L Charnock 5
406 00-1 ROCKETEER 7 (B,C,G) W Muir 8-13 ... Kim McDonnell 2

7-4 Muzz, 11-4 Rocketeer, 7-2 Random, 5-1 Iva's Flyer, 10-1 Caspian Gold, 20-1 Name The Tune.

3.00 BLUEBELL LIMITED STAKES (£2,489: 6f) (5)

501 51-1 AGWA 4 (CD,F,G) R O'Sullivan 5-9-0 ... D Biggs 5
502 026- APOLLO RED 8 A Moore 5-9-0 ... N Adams 4
503 10-0 COURTING NEWMARKET 7 (CD,G) Mrs A Knight 6-9-0 ... J Quinn 3
504 461- PETRACO 12 (D,G,S) N Smith 6-9-0 ... S D Williams 1
505 000- PAT POINDESTRES 8 (CD,G) M Dixon 4-8-9 ... A Clark 2

13-8 Petraco, 7-4 Agwa, 9-2 Courting Newmarket, 7-1 Apollo Red, 14-1 Pat Poindestres.

3.35 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (£3,028. 1m) (12)

601 250- OCARA 124 (D,G) R Spicer 4-9-13 ... W Newnes 11
602 102- RURAL LAD 25 (D,F,G,S) R Spicer 5-9-12 ... A Clark 8
603 350- AL SHAATI 56 R O'Sullivan 4-9-11 ... D Biggs 10
604 002- SARUM 8 (CD,F,G) C Wildman 8-9-2 ... C Rutter 4
605 000- PREDICTABLE 24 (CD,G) Mrs A Knight 8-9-2 ... J Quinn 3
606 446- EXPORT MONDIAL 144 P Burgoyne 4-9-1 ... L Dettori 2
607 84-3 LUCKNAM STYLE 7 (F) Mrs B Waring 6-9-0 ... G Bardwell 9
608 05-0 CAN CAN CHARLIE 5 (G) M Johnston 4-9-0 ... J Weaver 1
609 003- BROOKS EXPRESS 8 R Akehurst 6-8-11 ... Paul Eddery 5
610 000- NORLING 37 (F,G) K Cunningham-Brown 4-8-9 ... L Charnock 7
611 040- CHICARD 18 T Naughton 5-7-12 ... Dale Gibson 6
612 400- SHARP IMP 8 (B) R Flower 4-7-7 ... D Wright (5) 12

7-2 Sarum, 4-1 Brooks Express, Rural Lad, 6-1 Can Can Charlie, 8-1 Predictable, 10-1 Lucknam Style, Ocara, 14-1 Norling, 20-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Berry, 15 winners from 54 runners, 27.8%; M Prescott, 17 from 80, 21.3%; Lord Huntingdon, 16 from 79, 20.3%; M Johnston, 18 from 92, 19.6%; N Graham, 4 from 22, 18.2%; R O'Sullivan, 27 from 157, 17.2%.

JOCKEYS: L Dettori, 20 winners from 56 rides, 35.7%; J Weaver, 5 from 21, 23.8%; L Carter, 6 from 31, 19.4%; M Hills, 28 from 183, 15.6%; J Williams, 50 from 342, 14.6%; A Clark, 7 from 59, 11.9%.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

7.00 Allmosa. 7.25 Dream Carrier. 7.50 Roving Minstrel. 8.20 Letsbeonestaboutit. 8.50 Ann Hill. 9.20 FAEZ (nap).

GOING: STANDARD
DRAW: 6F-1M 100YD, LOW NUMBERS BEST

7.00 RUBY HANDICAP (£3,319: 1m 6f 166yd) (9 runners) SKY

1 11-2 ALLMOSA 5 (C,BF,F,G) T Naughton 5-10-0 ... A Garth (5) 7
2 12-5 ARCTIC GUEST 7 (D,F,G) C Smith 4-9-9 ... Paul Eddery 4
3 340- GIORDANO 11J P Evans 4-8-3 ... A Clark 5
4 E2-1 MILINGAVIE 5 (C,F,G,S) M Johnston 4-8-0 (4ex) ... J Weaver 8
5 20-2 ARC BRIGHT 5 R Hollinshead 4-8-7 ... L Dettori 2
6 041- PICKLES 21J (F,G) R Lee 6-8-7 ... T Quinn 9
7 040- CARROLLS MARC 48 (C,F,G) P Haslam 6-8-5 ... T Williams 1
8 04/6- BOHEMIAN QUEEN 87J J Spearing 4-8-1 ... L Suthern (7) 6
9 5/00- BALLAD RULER 44J P Pritchard 8-7-12 ... N Adams 3

5-2 Arc Bright, 100-30 Milingavie, 9-2 Allmosa, 11-2 Arctic Guest, 6-1 Giordano, 7-1 Pickles, 16-1 Carrolls Marc, 25-1 Bohemian Queen, 33-1 Ballad Ruler.

7.25 TOPAZ CLAIMING STAKES (£3,080: 7f) (11) SKY

1 02-2 DREAM CARRIER 7 (D,F,G) T Barron 6-10-0 ... Paul Eddery 5
2 001- RESPECTABLE JONES 8 (D,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 8-9-8 ... L Dettori 1
3 005- DISTANT DYNASTY 8 J Long 4-9-6 ... D Wright (5) 6
4 325- QUEEN OF THE QUORN 36J (D,S) G Moore 4-9-5 ... W Newnes 4
5 000- CHRISTIAN WARRIOR 18 R Peacock 5-9-4 ... J Williams 3
6 440- MISSED THE BOAT 29J Miss S Wilton 4-9-4 ... A Garth (5) 2
7 JON'S CHOICE 51J B Preece 6-9-2 ... T Wall 7
8 /00- KEATING 348 D Nicholls 4-9-2 ... Alex Greaves 9
9 154- MAID WELCOME 12 (V,D,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 7-9-1 ... J Quinn 8
10 400- GROGFRYN 10J C Popham 4-8-12 ... D Biggs 11
11 061- ABBOTS DAUGHTER 11 (C,G) B McMahon 3-8-5 ... T Quinn 10

5-2 Abbots Daughter, 3-1 Dream Carrier, 9-2 Respectable Jones, 8-1 Maid Welcome, 7-1 Keating, 10-1 Queen Of The Quorn, 20-1 Grogfryn, 25-1 Distant Dynasty, Missed The Boat, 33-1 Christian Warrior, Jon's Choice.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

INCLUDES TURF MEETINGS

TRAINERS: R Charlton, 5 winners from 15 runners, 33.3%; Lord Huntingdon, 3 from 17, 17.6%; M Prescott, 4 from 24, 16.7%; J Spearing, 5 from 37, 13.5%; J Berry, 13 from 102, 12.7%; P Evans, 6 from 56, 10.7%.

JOCKEYS: A Clark, 6 winners from 34 rides, 17.6%; L Dettori, 9 from 54, 16.7%; T Quinn, 7 from 50, 14.0%; D Biggs, 5 from 38, 13.2%; S Dawson, 3 from 26, 11.5%; only qualifiers.

7.50 OPAL MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £3,377: 6f) (13) SKY

1 003- BLUE DOMAIN 12 R Hollinshead 9-0 ... M Humphries (7) 2
2 ESPLA M Prescott 9-0 ... C Nutter 1
3 500- LUCIUS LOCKET 11 J Berry 9-0 ... P Roberts (7) 13
4 6- PRESENT SITUATION 24 Lord Huntingdon 9-0 ... L Dettori 4
5 42- ROVING MINSTREL 23 B McMahon 9-0 ... A Clark 6
6 000- WENLOCH LAD 12 (B) J Peacock 9-0 ... M Wigham 5
7 0- BALMAHA 165 W Haggas 8-9 ... J Williams 7
8 02-0 BUCKLEY BOYS 5 A Bailey 8-9 ... S Whitworth 9
9 00- CHAMPERS GALORE 23 G Moore 8-9 ... Paul Eddery 3
10 FLORAL SPARK B Charlton 8-9 ... T Quinn 10
11 SWEETLITTLEMYSTERY E Alston 8-9 ... J Quinn 8
12 00- TREAD THE BOARDS 23 T Barron 8-9 ... J Fanning 11
13 WHITTLE WOODS GIRL E Alston 8-9 ... B Knott (7) 12

5-2 Roving Minstrel, 7-2 Present Situation, 4-1 Floral Spark, 11-2 others.

8.20 DIAMOND HANDICAP (£5,848: 6f) (7) SKY

1 0/63- NASHAAT 11 (D,F) K Walker 6-9-12 ... S Dawson 2
2 110- PATSY GRIMES 21 (B,D,G,S) M Muggeridge 4-8-9 ... Mark Denaro (7) 7
3 011- ASHGORE 47 (D,F,G) M Johnston 4-8-9 ... J Weaver 6
4 600/ CRONK'S COURAGE 396J (V,D,F,G,S) E Alston 8-8-1 ... S Knott (7) 5
5 003- LETSBEONESTABOUTIT 11 (B,D,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 8-8-12 ... L Dettori 1
6 000- BOLD STREET 52J (G) A Bailey 4-8-10 ... S Whitworth 4
7 040- PAGEBOY 84 (D,F) P Haslam 5-8-3 ... J Quinn 3

2-1 Ashgore, 5-2 Letsbeonestaboutit, 4-1 Nashaat, 6-1 Patsy Grimes, 8-1 Pageboy, 16-1 Bold Street, 25-1 Cronk's Courage.

8.50 GARNET CLAIMING STAKES (£2,243: 1m 4f) (12) SKY

1 844- ACANTHUS 128 (D,G,S) Miss S Wilton 4-9-2 ... Paul Eddery 9
2 05-4 AWESTRUCK 5 (B,F,G,S) B Preece 4-9-2 ... T Wall 11
3 120- TIYFRAN 11 (D,F) B Baugh 4-9-2 ... D Wright (5) 3
4 05-2 IRISH GROOM 7 (B,C,G) J Smith 7-9-1 ... A Garth (5) 7
5 2/7 GINGER FLOWER 464 (B,G) N Tinkler 5-8-13 ... L Charnock 4
6 6300- PEAK DISTRICT 33J (B) R Lee 8-8-12 ... T Quinn 6
7 /0- WHITEHOUSE GEM 25 R Peacock 11-8-10 ... N Adams 2
8 056- ANN HILL 8 (D,F,G) R Hollinshead 4-8-8 ... L Dettori 5
9 00-0 ATLANTIC WAY 7 (D,F,G) C Hill 6-8-7 ... J Quinn 12
10 NORDROSS 9J J Peacock 6-8-7 ... C Rutter 8
11 0/- PROSPECT OF WHITBY 240J P Pritchard 8-8-7 ... T Williams 10
12 000- GREENACRES STAR 25 B McMahon 4-8-2 ... A Mackay 1

5-2 Ann Hill, 3-1 Acanthus, 9-2 Ginger Flower, 6-4 Awestruck, 6-1 others.

9.20 EMERALD HANDICAP (£4,308: 1m 100yd) (6)

1 141- MENTALASANYTHIN 12 (C,D,G,S) A Bailey 5-10-3 ... A Mackay 1
2 641- FAEZ 11 (C,G,S) J Arnold 4-9-7 ... C Rutter 2
3 60-0 EASTLEIGH 5 (D,G,S) R Hollinshead 5-8-12 ... L Dettori 4
4 40-2 MAROWINS 5 (G) E Alston 5-7-12 ... J Quinn 6
5 80-0 MERSEYSIDE MAN 7 (B,D,F,G) J Scargill 8-7-8 ... D Wright (5) 5
6 080- BOLD MELODY 98J (D,F,G) P Haslam 5-7-7 ... C Adamson (7) 3

7-4 Faez, 5-2 Mentalasanythin, 7-2 Marowins, 8-1 Eastleigh, 10-1 Merseyside Man, 16-1 Bold Melody.

Good fortune vital as 25 runners seek winning ticket in Ladbroke lottery

Murphy can crown memorable week

By Julian Muscat

TESTING ground, a fiendishly tight track and 25 runners all vying for a share of £60,000. Those are the ingredients for the Ladbroke lottery, which masquerades as The Ladbroke, a handicap hurdle run at Leopardstown in Ireland today. It promises to be quite a spectacle.

The scene at the start may promote a sense of *deja vu* in the minds of Kilcash and his jockey, Mark Richards, who failed so narrowly last year when up against a field of exactly the same size. A rough passage, combined with a mistake at the final flight, served to deprive the combination by a neck in a thrilling finish.

Richards has a deserved reputation as the weighing room's form guru, yet well-weighted though Kilcash undoubtedly is, even Richards would not dare be confident in a race where previous performance is almost incidental to the prized asset of luck in running. Declan Murphy, whose mount, Gaelic Myth, is among the plethora of fancied horses, admitted as much when asked about his game plan yesterday.

"The inside track at Leopardstown is the fastest two miles I've ever ridden," he said. "No matter what you do, you never have much room. Basically I'll be keeping my fingers crossed and hoping things go my way."

Murphy believes his mount and Time For A Run are the ones to beat, but he added: "I'm more concerned that the ground will be a bit too deep for my horse, who likes it on the soft side of good. If it is like that on the day and we get the breaks, then I think we'll win it."

Such a scenario would make for a perfect end to a week in which Murphy successfully appealed against the two-day ban imposed on him after the King George VI Chase, only to find all the turf fixtures fall victim to inclement weather. Rain and snow have been falling at Leopardstown, too, making the Irishman's wish for decent ground a forlorn prospect.

"We've had snow, followed by rain, followed by sunshine. There's no doubt the ground will be very testing on the day," said an exasperated Edward O'Grady, who likens The Ladbroke to "the Grand National over hurdles". O'Grady, who trains Time For A Run at his Tipperary stables, also feels the going will be against his seven-year-old, who has in any case suffered from an interrupted preparation.

Owned by the fearless punter and bookmaker, J P McManus, Time For A Run went down on his knees during roadwork before Christmas and has missed two workouts in addition to his intended prep race. "He's as right as I can get him in the circumstances. We won't know until the race is over whether he is a little short," O'Grady explained.

Asked if McManus, recently returned from a vacation in Barbados, had been responsible for a sustained gamble on the horse, O'Grady was diplomacy itself. "The market would suggest that he's made a little dip," he replied.

Connections of the six British challengers will travel to Ireland fully aware that only two from these shores have landed the race in the 17 years it has been run as a handicap under this and previous sponsorships. With Kilcash's trainer, Peter Hedger, adamant that his horse is fitter now than at any stage of the season, Kilcash should again fare best of the raiding party, although Hedger added that he, too, will be looking to the skies in the hope of an uninterrupted passage.

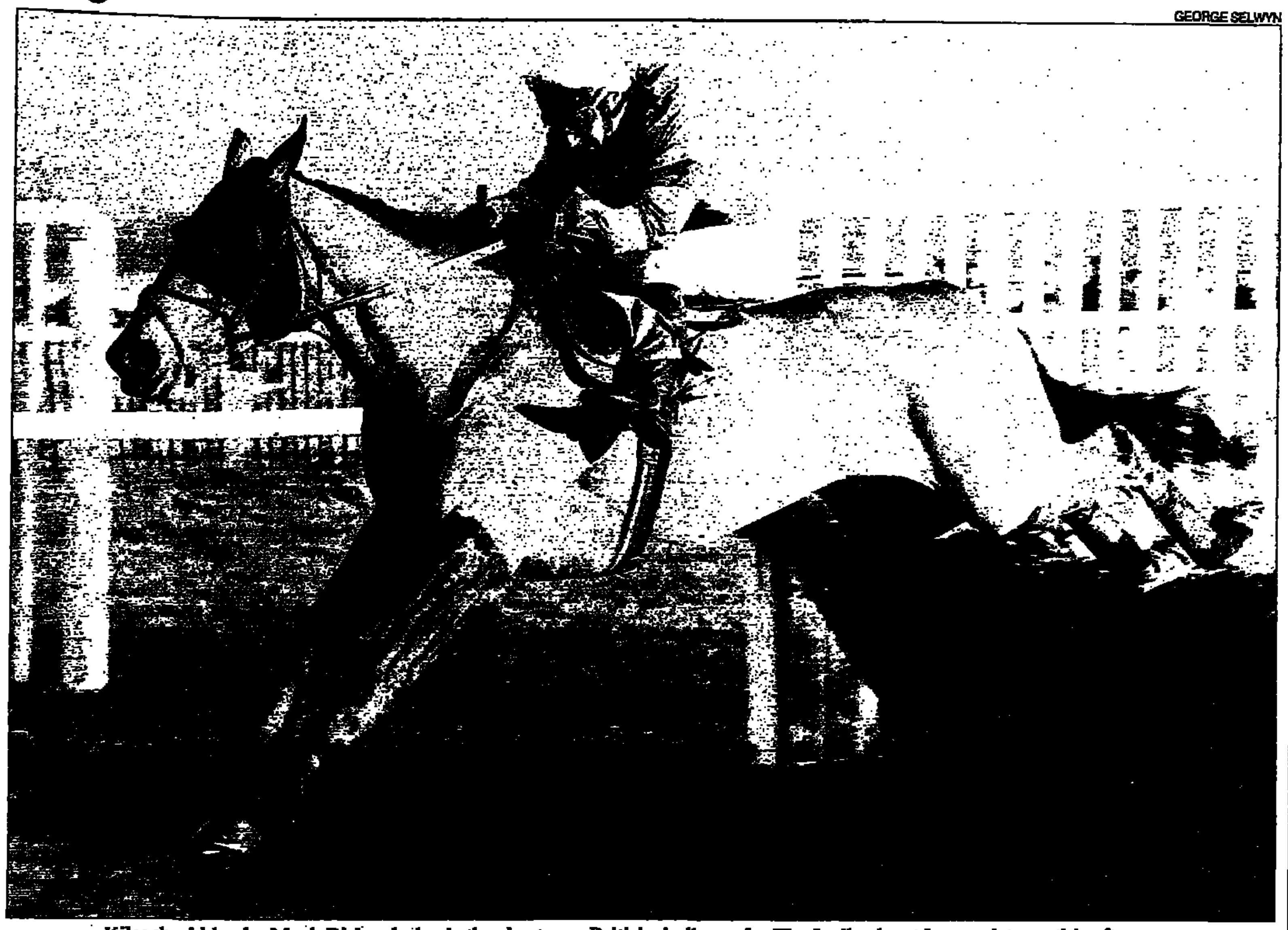
Depending on which line of form is pursued, a case can be made for half the field to be favourably weighted in this annual cavalry charge. But with the ground having turned against both Gaelic Myth and Time For A Run, I expect a bold showing from Atone, who was even more badly baulked than Kilcash 12 months ago in finishing but a short head behind him in third.

Do not be afraid, however, to back a long-shot. Three of the last four runnings have fallen to horses priced at 20-1.

☐ Arcot, trained by Jeremy Glover, was the only overnight withdrawal from The Ladbroke, leaving a field of 25.

ADRIAN Maguire will ride in today's Ladbroke hurdle at Leopardstown if Haydock fails to survive an early morning inspection. He will partner the Dermot Weld-trained Judicial Field, with Brendan Sheridan switching to Weld's second string, Aiybak. Mark Dwyer could also travel to ride former Ladbroke winner How's The Boss.

GEORGE SELWYN



Kilcash, ridden by Mark Richards, leads the six-strong British challenge for The Ladbroke at Leopardstown this afternoon

Sandown falls to snow

THE meeting at Sandown scheduled for this afternoon was called off yesterday as bad weather continued to disrupt racing. Officials found the track waterlogged and covered in snow.

Haydock's fixture, featuring the Mitsubishi Shogun Newton Chase, is also threatened. There is an inspection at 7am today with the clerk of the course, Philip Arkwright, reporting the track "barely raceable" yesterday. "Frost and freezing fog are forecast overnight so we will have a look in the morning," he said.

Warwick was hit by frost but it had cleared by early afternoon and the course was raceable yesterday. No problems are reported for the all-weather fixtures at Lingfield and Wolverhampton, but Lingfield's turf card on Monday depends on a 1pm inspection today.

Prospects are bright for The Ladbroke at Leopardstown.

BIG RACE LINE-UP

GOING: YIELDING TO SOFT C4

2.40 THE LADBROKE (Handicap hurdle: Ir£34,700: 2m) (25 runners)

1 25-2453 ROYAL DERBI 10 (CD,F,G,S) (M Tabori N Callaghan (GB) 9-11-12 ... G Bradley 91
2 310-141 LAND AFAR 35 (D,G,S) (T Ford) J Webber (GB) 7-11-3 ... W Marston 86
3 232-632 KILCASH 12 (B,D,BF,G,S) (J Whelan) P Hedger (GB) 6-11-2 ... M Richards 97
4 6F-0516 NOVELLO ALLEGRO 10 (B,CD,G,S) (Mrs R Polly) N Meade 6-10-13 ... R Hughes 85
5 0811/4/ CONDOR PAN 741 (C,D,F,G) (Mrs C Shubol) J Bolger 11-10-12 ... T Taaffe –
6 12010-4 HOW'S THE BOSS 35 (CD,G,S) (E Farrell) J Brassil 8-10-10 ... –
7 60/35-0 THE ILLIAD 13 (CD,G,S) (Mrs E Forton) N Furlong 13-10-10 ... F Woods –
8 0-32322 SATIN LOVER 21 (D,G,S) (D Hall) N Tinkler (GB) 6-10-9 ... G McCourt ⊞
9 0/F0-121 AIYBAK 75F (B,D,G) (M Smurfit) D Weld 6-10-8 ... – 85
10 534-123 ATONE 11 (CD,G,S) (R Sinclair) J Cox 7-10-8 ... K O'Brien 91
11 050-064 GLENCLOUD 13 (B,CD,G) (D Tierney) N Meade 6-10-8 ... G O'Neill 87
12 2526-52 GAELIC MYTH 13 (D,BF,S) (The Byrcox Syndicate) T Stack 7-10-7 ... D Murphy 90
13 U016-50 SHARP INVITE 56 (D,G,S) (N Quinlan) W Mullins 7-10-7 ... N Williamson 88
14 1/1221-3 TIME FOR A RUN 42 (CD,BF,G,S) (J McManus) E O'Grady 7-10-7 ... C Swan 92
15 F/0106F- COCK COCKBURN 364 (D,G,S) (D Kinsella) J Queally 8-10-6 ... S Murphy –
16 54-2220 ARCTIC WEATHER 28 (D,G) (R Bomze) M J O'Brien 5-9-12 ... T Horgan 91
17 -02115 COCKNEY LAD 12 (D,G) (D Daly) W Roper 5-9-12 ... M P Hourigan 87
18 311212 DERRYMOYLE 21 (D,BF,F,G) (H Stanley) M Cunningham 5-9-12 ... P Malone 98
19 13-8245 JUDICIAL FIELD 11 (B,D,S) (Miss K McGann) D Weld 5-10-0 ... B Sheridan 91
20 06-0030 KEPPOLS PRINCE 11 (D,F,G) (J Houghton) J Houghton 7-9-13 ... H Rogers 81
21 12-1114 LIFE SAVER 11 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs H Hegarty) N Meade 5-10-0 ... P Carberry 87
22 212212 NAHAR 29 (D,G) (R Cross) S Dow (GB) 9-9-13 ... A Dicken 98
23 5PF/000- SIMENON 10 (D,G,S) (P Donohoe) M O'Toole 8-9-12 ... C O'Dwyer –
24 254-342 THATCH AND GOLD 11 (D,G,S) (Mrs A Doyle) P J Flynn 6-9-12 ... M Duffy 82
25 3-12035 WELSHMAN 39 (F,G,S) (B Oxton) M Blanshard (GB) 8-10-0 ... D Gallagher 91

Long handicap: Arctic Weather 9-11, Cockney Lad 9-5, Keppols Prince 9-1, Thatch And Gold 9-2

BETTING: 7-1 Judicial Field, 8-1 Kilcash, Time For A Run, 10-1 Gaelic Myth, The Illiad, Satin Lover, 12-1 Atone, 14-1 Life Saver, 16-1 Land Afar, 20-1 Nahar, 25-1 Aiybak, Arctic Weather, Derrymoyle, 33-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

ROYAL DERBI 6l 3rd of 7 to Fortune And Fame in grade I hurdle over course and distance (soft), with NOVELLO ALLEGRO (13lb better off) over 15l 6th and SIMENON (7lb better off) over 6l 7th. LAND AFAR beat Highbrook neck in 12-runner grade III handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good to soft), with KILCASH (9lb better off) 7½l 6th. SATIN LOVER 5l 2nd of 8 to Absalom's Lady in hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good to soft), with KILCASH (7lb worse off) 8l 3rd. AIYBAK beat Pretty Nice 7l in 13-runner handicap hurdle at Naas (2m, good to soft). GAELIC MYTH 6l 2nd of 6 to Court Melody in hurdle at Limerick (2m, heavy). ARCTIC WEATHER short head 2nd of 14 to Brockley Court in handicap hurdle at Fairyhouse (2m) with TIME FOR A RUN (3lb better off) 2½l 3rd, GAELIC MYTH (2lb better off) 4½l 5th, GLENCLOUD (1lb better off) about 20l 11th and NOVELLO ALLEGRO (1lb better off) 11l 12th.
Selection: GAELIC MYTH

Sybillin puts stamina to Haydock test

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

SYBILLIN, one of the most exciting chasers in training, can overcome stamina doubts to win the Mitsubishi Shogun Newton Chase at Haydock today, provided the course passes a morning inspection.

The superb jumper, trained at Malton by Jimmy Fitzgerald, has won six out of seven since being sent over fences last season. His only defeat, in the Arkle Trophy at the Cheltenham festival, came when he was subsequently found to have been off colour.

However, all those victories, including the comprehensive defeat of his two main rivals today, Fragrant Dawn and Waterloo Boy, have been achieved over the minimum trip of two miles where a combination of swift jumping and a turn of foot have proved decisive. Today he faces an extra half-mile over the demanding Haydock course.

Sybillin does not have a stamina-packed pedigree and the only time he previously attempted 2½ miles — in France as a four-year-old — he finished last of 12. Fitzgerald acknowledged yesterday that the extra distance is a worry, but believes it is not beyond Sybillin's capabilities. "Ideally he is a two-mile horse but, having missed the Castleford Chase, we felt we had to go for something and plumped for this race.

"I think he will get the trip because he travels so well, and when a horse is travelling well within himself he has a chance of getting home. I would expect him to travel on the bridle for a long way in the race."

With no obvious front-runner, there should be a sensible pace. Waterloo Boy is best over a shorter distance and there is a doubt about Fragrant Dawn, the Tripleprint Gold Cup winner, being as effective on soft ground, so Sybillin will never have a better opportunity of winning over this trip.

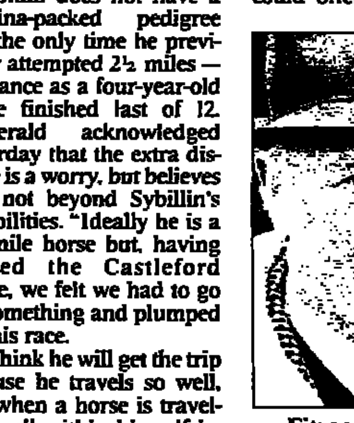
Fitzgerald and Mark Dwyer have excellent prospects of following up in the Makerfield Claiming Hurdle with Fox Chapel, who ran his best race for some time when chasing home Isabeau at Market Rasen last month.

The bookmakers are unlikely to be generous when it comes to chalking up a price for Savoy in the opening race but Gordon Richards's improving hurdler looks like banker material to resume winning ways.

At Warwick, backers can get off to a successful start with Djebel Prince. Charlie Egerton has his string in great fettle and the seven-year-old hurdler signalled a return to the form which saw him win twice in the mud at Newton Abbot last term when second to the progressive Edimbourg at Hereford last time.

Sunday Punch's debut over fences last month, when he carried automatic top weight in a novices' handicap, was full of promise and he should relish the step up in distance in the Burton Hill Novices' Chase. He can take this at the expense of Munka, who is dropped in class.

The Warwick Premier Chase looks to be between Midnight Caller and Gay Ruffian, both of whom fell last time. I marginally prefer the former. Basilicus could offer better value in the Hampton Hill Novices' Handicap Hurdle after a good run in the mud at Wetherby 12 days ago.



Fitzgerald: hopeful

All-weather racing usually has little appeal but today I may make small investments on two horses which ran against each other last time but go their separate ways at Lingfield and Wolverhampton.

Muzz is improving and, having won well at Southwell last month, can defy top weight in the Violet Handicap at Lingfield for the new team of Mark Johnston and Jason Weaver. Victory would boost the chances of Roving Minstrel in the Opal Maiden Stakes at floodlit Wolverhampton. Having finished less than a length behind Muzz on only his second run, the Bryan McMahon-trained colt should appreciate the return to six furlongs.

HAYDOCK PARK

THUNDERER

12.30 Savoy
1.00 Direct
1.30 Clurican
2.00 Sybillin
2.30 Peacock Feather
3.00 Kibreet
3.30 Beatson

GOING: HEAVY (7.00AM INSPECTION) SIS

12.30 GARSTANG NOVICES HURDLE (£2,332: 2m 6f) (6 runners)

1 6-312 SAVOY 10 (G) (R Ogden) G Richards 7-11-4 ... N Doughty ⊞
2 JENNY'S GLEN (M Saunders) B Rothwell 7-11-0 ... M Dwyer –
3 TONGADIN 919F (Doe Park Partners) M Pipe 8-11-0 ... R Dunwoody –
4 0 TRAVELLING LIGHT 10 (Mrs J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 8-11-0 ... Mr S Swiers –
5 62 WEY I MAN 28 (R Collins) R Collins 5-11-0 ... P Niven 89
6 00 MISS CRUISE 10 (C Bowkett) N Babbage 7-10-9 ... S Earle –

BETTING: 5-4 Savoy, 3-1 Tongadin, 4-1 Travelling Light, 9-2 Wey I Man, 16-1 Jenny's Glen, 50-1 Miss Cruise.

1993: LO STREGONE 7-11-4 G McCourt (2-5 fav) T Tate 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

SAVOY 2l 2nd of 17 to Morceli in a novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, heavy), with TRAVELLING LIGHT (1lb better off) 44l 7th. Previously, beat Cogo Lane 1½l in a 8-runner novice hurdle at Wetherby (3m 1f, good). WEY I MAN 5l 2nd of 9 to Major Bell in a novice hurdle at Edinburgh (3m, good to firm). TONGADIN's showed best Flat form when beating Eastern Whisper 5l in a 13-runner handicap at Catterick (2m, firm) in June 1991.
Selection: SAVOY (nap)

1.00 NEW YEAR HANDICAP CHASE BBC1
(£5,199: 3m) (5 runners)

1 12P-01U DIRECT 5 (D,S) (H Kaye) J Edwards 11-11-10 ... A Maguire ⊞
2 1F1-11F MIDNIGHT CALLER 7 (D,BF,S) (M Worcester) S Sherwood 8-11-10 ... 2nd pref 94
3 P134/53- DEEP COLONIST 359 (D,G,S) (Adcock Racing) T Tate 12-11-7 ... M Dwyer 94
4 /121P/2 THE MALTKILN 30 (V,D,F,G,S) (M Homer) M Hammond 11-10-3 ... C Grant 88
5 515PP BRADWALL 37 (C,F,S) (G Barlow) G Barlow 10-10-0 ... B Storey –

Long handicap: Bradwall 9-6

BETTING: 5-4 Direct, 6-7 The Maltkiln, 8-1 Deep Colonist, 50-1 Bradwall.

1993: OTTERBURN HOUSE 9-10-10 D Byrne (3-1) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

DIRECT beat Cythere 7l in a 9-runner handicap chase at Chepstow on penultimate start (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft). DEEP COLONIST 21l 5th of 10 to General Pershing in a handicap chase at Ayr on penultimate start (2m 4f, good). THE MALTKILN 4l 2nd of 4 to Wide Boy in a handicap chase here (2m 4f, heavy).
Selection: MIDNIGHT CALLER

1.30 NORTHERN HANDICAP HURDLE BBC1
(£4,120: 2m) (5 runners)

1 22E14E PERSUASIVE 5 (CD,G,S) (W McHarg) Miss L Perratt 7-11-10 ... Mr M Buckley (5) 90
2 312-422 HOME COUNTIES 12 (V,S) (Roxy Cinemas (Dalton) Ltd) D Moffatt 5-11-2 D J Moffatt (3) 97
3 12100-0 NIJMEGEN 63 (CD,S) (W Hancock) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-11-1 ... M Dwyer 92
4 252231 NIKITAS 7 (CD,F,G,S) (Miss A Whitfield) Miss A Whitfield 9-11-0 ... A Maguire ⊞
5 0P0423 CLURICAN 12 (D,BF,S) (P Grundy) N Tinkler 5-10-8 ... R Dunwoody 96

BETTING: 11-4 Home Counties, Clurican, 3-1 Nikitas, 4-1 Nijmegen, 8-1 Persuasive.

1993: VALFINET 6-11-5 J Lower (4-5 fav) M Pipe 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

PERSUASIVE 13½l 4th of 12 to Mared in a handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good), with CLURICAN (2lb better off) almost 30l 8th. HOME COUNTIES neck 2nd of 8 to Westholme in a handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m, soft). Previously, 1l 2nd of 7 to Wee Wizard in a handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m, good) with PERSUASIVE (5lb worse off) 6½l 5th. NIKITAS beat Here He Comes 3l in a 5-runner handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, soft). Previously, 2½l 3rd of 6 to Strath Royal in a handicap hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good), with CLURICAN (6lb better off) 3½l 4th. CLURICAN 1¾ 3rd of 9 to Child Of The Mist in a handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m, good)
Selection: CLURICAN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
				N Mann	7	15	46.7
G Richards	6	18	33.3	N Doughty	57	156	36.5
E Richards	32	100	32.0	Mr M Buckley	3	10	30.0
M Pipe	27	90	30.0	R Dunwoody	16	64	25.0
Mrs M Reveley	5	19	26.3	A Maguire	8	40	20.0
T Tate	4	17	23.5	P Niven	13	71	18.3
Jimmy Fitzgerald	11	47	23.4				

2.00 MITSUBISHI SHOGUN NEWTON CHASE BBC1
(Grade I: £30,839: 2m 4f) (5 runners)

1 220P01 ARMAGRET 10 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs R Wilkinson) B Wilkinson 9-11-10 ... L O'Hara 78
2 14226-1 FRAGRANT DAWN 28 (F,G,S) (D & S Mercer) M Pipe 10-11-10 ... R Dunwoody 85
3 11113-1 SYBILLIN 35 (C,F,G,S) (Marquesa de Moratalla) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-11-10 ... M Dwyer ⊞
4 4F6301 VIVA BELLA 9 (B,D,S) (L Froomes) Mrs S Bramall 7-11-10 ... C Grant 50
5 21BP-P3 WATERLOO BOY 35 (D,F,G,S) (M Deeley) D Nicholson 11-11-10 ... A Maguire 97

BETTING: 11-10 Sybillin, 9-4 Fragrant Dawn, 3-1 Waterloo Boy, 12-1 Armagret, 50-1 Viva Bella.

1993: GOLD OPTIONS 11-11-10 L Wyer (14-1) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

ARMAGRET beat One For The Pot 2½l in a 5-runner handicap chase at Newcastle last time out (2m 4f, heavy).
FRAGRANT DAWN beat Young Hustler 3l in the 11-runner grade III Tripleprint Gold Cup Handicap Chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good), with ARMAGRET (3lb better off) 54l 8th. SYBILLIN beat Deep Sensation 1½l in the 7-runner grade II Tingle Creek Handicap Chase at Sandown (2m, good), with WATERLOO BOY (3lb better off) 4l 3rd.
VIVA BELLA beat Island Gale 2½l in an 8-runner amateurs' handicap chase at Carlisle (2m 4f 110yd, soft).
Selection: SYBILLIN

2.30 MAKERFIELD CLAIMING HURDLE (£2,038: 2m 4f) (9 runners)

1 2P05/ PARLEZVOUSFRANCAIS 638 (D,F,S) (L Hyman) M Pipe 10-11-0 ... R Dunwoody –
2 24-0332 FOX CHAPEL 12 (D,G,S) (K Budge) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-10-12 ... M Dwyer ⊞
3 52-6F10 KANNDABIL 12 (B,G,S) (M McAndrew) N Tinkler 7-10-12 ... E Husband (5) 92
4 54-5301 HIGH GRADE 30 (CD,G,S) (Under Orders Racing III) Miss S Wilton 6-10-11 ... T Eley (5) 79
5 3432-03 INAN 32 (W Farrell) R O'Leary 5-10-10 ... R Garritty 69
6 4/6P0-45 DECIDED 11 (F,G,S) (Mrs C Lee) R Lee 11-10-9 ... A Maguire 75
7 00- MASON DIXON 367 (R O'Leary) R O'Leary 5-10-9 ... K Davies (7) –
8 P03-64P NESSFIELD 40 (D,G,S) (Royston Racing Club Ltd) K Morgan 9-10-9 ... A S Smith 80
9 3-P34P1 PEACOCK FEATHER 9 (S) (Mrs J Smith) K Burke 6-10-5 ... R Marley 74

BETTING: 7-4 Fox Chapel, 7-2 High Grade, 6-1 Kanndabil, Peacock Feather, 8-1 Nessfield, Parlezvousfrancais, 10-1 Decided, 16-1 Inan, 33-1 Mason Dixon.

1993: CELCIUS 9-10-12 J Lower (5-4 fav) M Pipe 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

PARLEZVOUSFRANCAIS 33½l 5th of 13 to Shadeux in a handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to firm). FOX CHAPEL neck 2nd of 10 to Isabeau in a handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 3f 110yd, soft). KANNDABIL 31l 7th of 8 to Westholme in a handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m, soft).
HIGH GRADE beat Make Me Proud 8l in a 10-runner claiming hurdle over course and distance (heavy), with FOX CHAPEL (5lb better off) 1l 3rd. INAN 20l 3rd of 8 to Inan in a novice handicap hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft). NESSFIELD 21½l 4th of 5 to Mythical Storm in a handicap hurdle over course and distance on penultimate start (good to soft). PEACOCK FEATHER beat Milly Black 15l in a 10-runner selling hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, heavy).
Selection: FOX CHAPEL

3.00 OLDHAM NOVICES CHASE (£3,355: 2m) (4 runners)

1 543/P CILERNA'S LAD 51 (D McCain) D McCain 9-11-3 ... Mr D McCain (5) –
2 304-511 KIBREET 9 (D,F,G,S) (D Sieseder) R Alner 7-11-3 ... S Earle ⊞
3 015400 SEON 19 (D,F,G,S) (C Hunter Ltd) W Bentley 8-11-3 ... A Maguire –
4 40 SOUND AND FURY 52 (Count K Goess-Saurau) J Old 10-11-3 ... T Grantham –

BETTING: 1-3 Kibreet, 7-2 Seon, 8-1 Sound And Fury, 16-1 Cilerna's Lad.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

CILERNA'S LAD pulled up 3 out in a novice hurdle won by Powleyvale here (2m 4f, good to soft). Previously, 14½l 3rd of 4 to The Yank in a National Hunt flat race at Hexham (2m, firm).
KIBREET beat Villa Recos 20l in a 9-runner novice chase at Taunton (2m 110yd, heavy). Previously, beat Generous Scot 7l in a 10-runner novice chase at Hereford (2m, good to soft). SEON 78l 7th of 11 to Glemot in a novice chase at Edinburgh (2m, good). Previously, 7½l 4th of 11 to Notable Exception in a handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good to soft).
SOUND AND FURY 8½l 4th of 10 to Dance Parlour in a novice hurdle at Worcester on penultimate start (2m 2f, soft).
Selection: KIBREET

3.30 OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,898: 2m) (16 runners)

1 1 BEATSON 9 (D,S) (Mrs E Gardiner) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-12 ... T Jenks (5) –
2 4- ADDINGTON BOY 315 (Gott Foods Ltd) G Richards 6-11-5 ... N Doughty –
3 0 CRUNCH TIME 85 (C Major) C Broad 5-11-5 ... A Flannigan (7) –
4 JIMMY WAG (C Ewart) L Lungo 6-11-5 ... Mr C Ewart –
5 JOE BILLIS (Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber) J Old 5-11-5 ... Pat Thompson (7) –
6 KILLONE ABBOT (Lady Lloyd Webber) J Old 5-11-5 ... T Grantham –
7 30- NICHOLAS PLANT 296 (Mrs J Armstrong) L Lungo 5-11-5 ... F Perratt (5) –
8 PRINCE BALTASAR (G Allison) N Bycroft 5-11-5 ... C Grant –
9 2-2 RHOSSILI BAY 92 (BF) (Mrs M Williams) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-5 ... R Hodge –
10 STOP THE WALLER (R Burgon) M Barnes 5-11-5 ... A Dobbin –
11 WHATDIDYOUSAY (Mrs D Bousfield) B Bousfield 6-11-5 ... N Leach (5) –
12 LEGATA (C Whiteley) J Dooler 5-11-0 ... R Dunwoody –
13 MY LISA TOO (M Tierney) N Bycroft 6-11-0 ... S Turner –
14 WHO IS EQUINAME (Equiname Ltd) D Eddy 4-10-7 ... A Maguire –
15 MY ADVENTURE (Mrs J Conner) M H Easterby 4-10-2 ... R Garritty –
16 STREET LADY (D Furlong) A Bailey 4-10-2 ... N Mann –

BETTING: 11-4 Rhossili Bay, 3-1 Beatson, 7-1 My Adventure, 8-1 Addington Boy, 9-1 Street Lady, 12-1 others.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION



HAYDOCK PARK
BBC1

1.00: Direct had every chance until unseating his rider three out behind Moorcroft Boy at Cheltenham on Monday. He would go well if keeping on his feet, but is prone to bad errors. The overnight rise in the weights boosts the prospects of **The Maltkiln**, who ran well here in November following a two-year lay-off. Midnight Caller would have claims if re-routed from Warwick.

1.30: Home Counties is arguably the best in at the weights, if his second to Wee Wizard at Ayr in November is used as a yardstick. However, the five-year-old is not the bravest of animals. **Nijmegen** ran promisingly over a trip too far at Chepstow two months ago and can add to a trio of victories achieved last season.

2.00: see above

LEOPARDSTOWN
C4

2.40: Several runners are laid out months in advance for this race. My four against the field are Time For A Run, owned by the renowned punter-bookmaker J P McManus; Gaelic Myth, who has attracted some monster bets this week; Simenon, a rank outsider who has benefitted from Royal Derbi keeping the weights down, and **Judicial Field**. Trained by Dermot Weld, he ran well in top four-year-old races at Cheltenham and Punchestown last year. An encouraging pipe-opener at Leopardstown 12 days ago, his first spin over hurdles this season, looks like the final touch of a classic Weld preparation.

Richard Evans

WARWICK

THUNDERER
12.40 Djebel Prince. 1.10 Lodestone Lad. 1.40 Honest Word. 2.10 Midnight Caller. 2.40 Zealous Kitten. 3.10 Dr Rocket. 3.40 Trooping.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.10 PREROGATIVE.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY PATCHES) SIS

12.40 SHERBOURNE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,469: 2m) (9 runners)

1 2/0 L'ORAGE 9 (D,F) G Balding 6-12-0 ... N Collum (4) –
2 325- LAND OF THE FREE 255 (D,F,S) R Baker 5-11-7 ... A Thornton 87
3 5-42 DJEBEL PRINCE 18 (D,G,S) C Egerton 7-11-4 ... A Procter 95
4 -P41 SYLVIA BEACH 11 (F,S) P Murphy 8-11-1 ... D Matthews 98
5 0-P2 NOBLE YEOMAN 9 (D,S) R Dickin 10-10-12 ... D Meredith 95
6 -646 IMA DELIGHT 21 (BF,C,S) Mrs P Sly 7-10-11 Lorna Brand (7) 96
7 5034 PUNCHBAG 12 (G,S) G Ham 8-10-8 ... R Davis ⊞
8 2/P TIPP DOWN 32 (D,S) J J O'Neill 11-10-5 ... S Curran –
9 /0-6 GARDA'S GOLD 18 (D,S) R Dickin 11-10-2 ... W Turton (7) –

5-2 Sylvia Beach, 3-1 Djebel Prince, 5-1 Noble Yeoman, 13-2 others.

1.10 LEASOWES NOVICES HURDLE
(4-Y-O: £1,542: 2m) (15)

1 ABSOLUTELY AVERAGE J Upson 10-12 ... R Supple –
2 6404 ANY MINUTE NOW 25 R Akehurst 10-12 ... D Bridgwater 86
3 DARING PAST 95F M Hammond 10-12 ... L Wyer –
4 F GREEN'S FAIR 21 G Ham 10-12 ... P Holley –
5 00 HO-JOE 10 J Carr 10-12 ... N Smith –
6 000 JASPER ONE 21 R Woodhouse 10-12 ... J Driscoll (7) –
7 3 LODESTONE LAD 26 R Dickin 10-12 ... D Meredith (3) 89
8 04F4 MORAN BRIG 5 (V) G Balding 10-12 ... S Hodgson 79
9 NEVER SO LOST 526F P Hiatt 10-12 ... W McFarland –
10 2F PHROSE 7 C Weedon 10-12 ... D O'Sullivan 91
11 PLAIN SAILING 53F M Meade 10-12 ... M A Fitzgerald –
12 2 PREROGATIVE 119 (V,BF) M Pipe 10-12 ... J Lower ⊞
13 TAKE A FLYER 201F R Hodges 10-12 ... I Lawrence –
14 FORMAESTRE 75F G Humphrey 10-7 ... A Tory –
15 40 NORTHERN JUDY 10 R Hollinshead 10-7 ... S Wynne (3) 83

6-4 Prerogative, 7-2 Phrose, 9-2 Lodestone Lad, 6-1 Daring Past, 10-1 others

1.40 BURTON HILL NOVICES CHASE
(£3,591: 2m 4f 110yd) (12)

1 P-34 CHRISTMAS GORSE 21 (BF) N Gaselee 8-10-12 ... J Frost 78
2 0-U2 COMEDY SPY 43 (S) Mrs A Hewitt 10-10-12 ... M A Fitzgerald 77
3 00-3 FREE JUSTICE 10 (S) N Twiston-Davies 10-10-12 ... C Llewellyn 66
4 0/6 HONEST WORD 12 (G,S) M Pipe 9-10-12 ... J Lower –
5 F-25 HOWARYADOON 21 (F,S) R Rowe 8-10-12 ... R Davies ⊞
6 111- KNAVE OF CLUBS 242 (F,G,S) J O'Shea 7-10-12 ... –
7 0030 MOUNTSHANNON 39 (G) C Trietline 8-10-12 ... B Clifford –
8 -336 MUNKA 50 (S) P Hobbs 8-10-12 ... C Maude 93
9 P60- SOUTH STACK 346 (S) Mrs S Smith 8-10-12 ... Gary Lyons –
10 55-2 SUNDAY PUNCH 38 (G) J Gifford 8-10-12 ... E Murphy 74
11 0-62 VILLA RECOS 9 (F,G,S) A Barrow 9-10-12 ... B Powell 86
12 -236 WILLIE MCGARR 77 Mrs D Thomas 9-10-12 ... R Guest 80

11-10 Honest Word, 4-1 Munka, 6-1 Sunday Punch, 7-1 others.

2.10 WARWICK PREMIER CHASE (£4,728: 3m 2f) (4)

1 -11F MIDNIGHT CALLER 7 (BF,D,S) S Sherwood 8-11-10 J Osborne 81
2 1-2F GAY RUFFIAN 5 (BF,G,S) M Pipe 8-11-3 ... J Lower ⊞
3 -P25 RUFUS 11 (D,S) B Smart 8-11-3 ... B Powell 76
4 3UFP RU VALENTINO 53 (F,G) N Twiston-Davies 10-11-3 C Llewellyn 75

Evens Gay Ruffian, 11-10 Midnight Caller, 8-1 Ru Valentino, 12-1 Rufus.

2.40 WHITNASH HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,818: 2m 4f 110yd) (7)

1 1/4 COKENNY BOY 8 (C,D,F,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 9-12-0 L O'Hare (7) –
2 1-3P BOLLIN MAGDALENE 31 (BF,G,D) M H Easterby 6-10-0 L Wyer ⊞
3 -U02 ZEALOUS KITTEN 9 (S) R Price 6-10-0 ... J Osborne 95
4 441- SEA PATROL 302 (B,F) M Pipe 7-10-0 ... M Foster 83
5 11-F SURCOAT 11 (F) R Baker 7-10-0 ... L Harvey 94
6 03F2 SMILING CHIEF 30 (G) R Hodges 6-10-0 ... T Dascombe (7) 83
7 /UP- WHY RUN 273 (S) D Murray Smith 9-10-0 ... G Rowe –

5-2 Zealous Kitten, 3-1 Bollin Magdalene, 4-1 Cokenny Boy, 9-2 Sea Patrol, 13-2 Surcoat, 12-1 Smiling Chief, 25-1 Why Run.

3.10 BEAR HANDICAP CHASE (£4,825: 2m) (8)

1 3323 AL HASHIMI 10 (D,F,G) R Hodges 10-12-0 ... J Frost 97
2 26-F GOLDEN FREEZE 49 (C,D,G,S) R Lee 12-11-13 M A Fitzgerald ⊞
3 5121 MEGA BLUE 12 (D,F,G,S) Mrs V Aconley 9-11-8 ... P Niven 93
4 1223 BOSTON ROVER 22 (D,F,G,S) D Brennan 9-11-8 ... M Brennan 98
5 2123 DR ROCKET 18 (D,F,G,S) R Dickin 9-11-6 ... D Meredith (3) 95
6 -511 KIBREET 9 (D,F,G,S) R Alner 7-11-2 ... 2nd pref 95
7 /0-F TRUBLION 10 (D,G,S) Mrs S Smith 9-10-4 ... R Guest –
8 3223 L'UOMO PIU 17 (D,BF,F,G) A Barrow 10-10-0 ... B Powell 92

3-1 Mega Blue, 7-2 Golden Freeze, 4-1 Boston Rover, 5-1 Dr Rocket, Al Hashimi, 8-1 L'Uomo Piu, 25-1 Trublion.

3.40 HAMPTON HILL NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,059: 2m) (13)

1 6-02 DIVINE CHANCE 8 N Gaselee 6-11-10 ... C Llewellyn 96
2 4U21 ALICE SMITH 17 (S) B Eckley 7-11-9 ... D Matthews (5) ⊞
3 6202 BASILICUS 12 Mrs S Smith 5-11-9 ... R Guest 95
4 0-11 PROJECT'S MATE 26 (CD,S) R Brown 7-11-6 P McLoughlin (7) 95
5 253 TROOPING 9 M Meagher 5-11-6 ... L Wyer 92
6 5053 CADDMSEACH 9 (G) G Ham 6-10-10 ... S Mackey 88
7 P0P ANDARE 37 S Mellor 5-10-9 ... Chris Webb (7) –
8 2P0P MINT-MASTER 74 (F) B Shaw 9-10-7 ... K Brown (7) –
9 -02P ALTISHAR 17 D Gandolfo 6-10-5 ... P Holley 96
10 50-6 GIVE ME HOPE 18 R Price 6-10-1 ... Guy Lewis (7) 98
11 -0P5 MASTER MURPHY 45 P Murphy 5-10-0 ... E Murphy 82
12 P-50 BOWLAND GIRL 10 R Hollinshead 5-10-0 ... S Wynne (3) 80
13 5306 PRINCETHORPE 22 B Cambidge 7-10-0 ... D Meredith (3) 92

4-1 Alice Smith, 5-1 Project's Mate, 6-1 Divine Chance, 13-2 Basilicus, 7-1 Trooping, 8-1 Caoimseach, Altishar, 13-1 Give Me Hope, 16-1 Mint-Master, Princethorpe, 20-1 Master Murphy, 25-1 Andare, 33-1 Bowland Girl.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Price, 4 winners from 12 runners, 33.3%; M Pipe, 24 from 89, 27.0%; N Gaselee, 5 from 19, 26.3%; R Hodges, 4 from 17, 23.5%; J Gifford, 8 from 41, 19.5%; G Balding, 9 from 52, 17.3%.

JOCKEYS: R Guest, 6 winners from 23 rides, 26.1%; E Murphy, 3 from 15, 20.0%; J Osborne, 10 from 64, 15.6%; M A Fitzgerald, 4 from 31, 12.9%; L Harvey, 3 from 24, 12.5%; C Llewellyn, 5 from 45, 11.1%.

Nine compete

NINE courses are in the running to stage the two Sunday fixtures later this year. The successful applicants will be decided on Tuesday.

Five are interested in the Flat fixture in July or early August, with Haydock, Lingfield and Pontefract having applied. Uttoxeter and Kempton are among four courses competing for the National Hunt card set for October.

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Lingfield Park, Southwell, Wolverhampton (AW)
TUESDAY: Chepstow, Leicester, Lingfield Park (AW).
WEDNESDAY: Kelso, Lingfield Park (AW), Plumpton, Southwell (AW)
THURSDAY: Lingfield Park (AW), Wetherby, Wincanton.
FRIDAY: Ascot, Edinburgh, Southwell (AW).
SATURDAY: Ascot, Newcastle, Warwick, Lingfield Park (AW).
(Flat meetings in bold)

SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (dead): Jorrocks, Coworth Park, Craigmore, Albarez, Devon Zipper, Select Sam, Andrew's First, Black Opal, Fiveleigh First.

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Walker raises questions of football's morality



Deehan: in charge

EVERTON'S courtship of Mike Walker demonstrates, once again, that football ethics, so-called gentlemen's agreements, fall quicker than snow sliding off a leaf in a rapid thaw.

When Walker defected from Norwich City yesterday on the eve of the FA Cup third round — the one remaining tournament Norwich could win this season — the timing was, to say the least, tawdry. Yet when the man speaks of putting family security as his highest priority, who can condemn him? The government talks of Back To Basics, it implies family values and the massive assurance that Everton appear willing to put Walker's way — reportedly £600,000 for a four-year contract — is beyond anything that Norwich could, or apparently would, offer to try to keep him.

That does not excuse the behaviour of Everton Football Club. For the second time in a little over three years, this club has driven a snowplough through an agreement made between club chairmen not to poach another club's manager in season.

Of course, Everton insist they have done everything by the book. They say that they asked permission to approach Walker and, when this was denied, they made no indirect efforts to entice him. Humbug. Dr David Marsh, for the time being Everton's chairman, had made it plain on BBC Radio 5 that Everton's interest was in Walker and that no other manager was on their list. That is akin to the police naming a murder suspect and saying no other line of inquiry would be pursued.

Obviously, in FA Cup week, or any other time, this put Norwich in an invidious situation. Norwich, Britain's pride in Europe this season and a club so well-run that it puts to shame some of the supposedly bigger clubs, like Everton, could hardly defend itself from such an overture. It followed closely the pre-Christmas raid on Southend by Birmingham City to sign its manager, Barry Fry.



ROB HUGHES

Football Commentary

What makes it worse was yesterday morning's little charade when Walker and Everton simultaneously informed the press that he had quit his post at Norwich and only then did he send a fax to Everton applying for the vacant managership there.

They insult the intelligence of football followers. Above all else, Walker has proved in his year and a half guiding Norwich is that he is nobody's fool and that he is a hard, disciplined man. Can you, therefore, accept that he took a chance on his career and walked out on his players, supporters and employers simply because he believed press speculation that Everton might be willing to treble the £50,000 basic wage he felt Norwich inadequately paid him?

You might conclude that it would be a duty to your family to accept such terms as Everton's offer. Even if Walker were to fail there, if contracts mean anything in law, the salary would secure his future for the next decade. Robert Chase, his chairman at Norwich, clearly knew there was a danger of losing his manager.

In Milan in November, when Atlético Madrid purportedly showed interest in Walker, Chase made no attempt to offer his manager then any security beyond the roll-on contract that would be renewed, both parties willing, next June. In other words, Norwich were prepared to show no more faith in Walker than the five remaining months on his current, low basic wage, deal.

Therefore, blaming Mike Walker as an individual is not on. During last week, he said bitterly: "Don't talk to me about loyalty. Loyalty doesn't pay. I was successful at Colchester and all it got me was the sack." But yesterday, Walker demonstrated that disloyalty is a two-way process. Kendall was, until last month, the manager at Everton. He had returned there in November 1989, jilting Manchester City with the words that "City was a love affair. Everton is a marriage". A marriage, in his case, twice divorced.

However, if managers and chairmen are prepared to ridicule the contracts that bind them, can there be any wonder that players and their agents treat football clubs and supporters' loyalty as things they pass in the night? Walker said he left Norwich with nothing on his conscience. Everton said that they made no ungentlemanly approach. The truth is, Walker was poached.

The question to be answered is how good a manager he is. He came from the Norwich backroom staff. He thus knows that his success was in taking the managerial role at the time when years, more than a decade, of prodigious and diligent coaching from youth level onwards, came to fruition.

Certainly Walker wrung more out of it in terms of consistency and hardness, but he never managed alone. His assistant, his coach, John Deehan, will be in charge of Norwich in Walker's stead and, unless the disloyalty is propounded, unless Walker like so many managers attempts to take his assistant and other members of the staff with him, we shall see Mike Walker trying to manager a badly-run club with Norwich methods but from scratch.

Conditions ideal for underdogs in FA Cup

BY KEITH PIKE

LAST season it was Liverpool, the year before that, Arsenal. Perhaps the only predictable thing about the third-round of the FA Cup is that, somewhere, the unpredictable will happen, and that one of the well-heeled clubs will stumble.

Lofty ambition pitted against lowly opposition, oblivious to its own limitations, provides an explosive mixture, especially in a season when one route to European riches is already all but closed, with Manchester United 13 points clear in the FA Carling Premiership, and only the runners-up guaranteed a place in the Uefa Cup.

The weather is preparing to play a significant part. Unfamiliar surroundings are sometimes enough on their own to unsettle the elite. Add a frozen pitch or a mudheap, and the odds tilt even further towards the underdogs.

Surprisingly, in view of the snow that fell upon saturated pitches on Thursday, only one of today's 30 ties — Luton Town against Southend United — has so far been postponed, although several more are subject to pitch inspections. The Football Association has urged all home clubs to make arrangements for early decisions, but with wintry showers forecast, as well as a widespread frost, there may be more casualties. The FA hopes clubs will be able to arrange with local police for postponed matches to be rearranged for next week, rather than wait the statutory ten days.

The favourites, Manchester United, do not play until tomorrow, against Sheffield United at Bramall Lane, where defeat in the fifth round last season helped concentrate their minds on the championship. The holders, Arsenal, launch their campaign at Millwall on Monday, by which time the draw for the fourth round will have been made. Which unlikely survivors will figure in it?

Bristol City, perhaps. In two-and-half seasons in charge at Anfield, Graeme Souness has experienced both the delight and despair of the FA Cup, winning it in 1992 and then losing at home to Bolton Wanderers in a third-round replay last January. Souness later survived a concerted bid to oust him, but defeat today and questions about his future would inevitably be raised again.

There were signs on Tuesday, when Liverpool recovered from 3-0 down to draw with the champions, that Souness may soon have a team capable of upholding Anfield tradition, but conditions at Ashton Gate will not suit them. "The centre of the pitch is rather marshy," Martin Bodenham, the referee, admitted before giving the go-ahead.

Liverpool, who will be without Mark Wright, are one of 11 Premiership sides — including Chelsea, who surely will not fail against Barnet in a tie switched to Stamford Bridge — drawn away from home. Others at risk include Aston Villa, seven-times winners, Queens Park Rangers and Norwich City.

Exeter City were so keen for their tie against Villa to be played that Danny Bailey, their midfield player, donned full Red-Indian costume to perform a ceremonial "anti-rain" dance at St James' Park. Exeter have not reached the fourth round since 1981, Villa have been beaten only twice in 17 away games this season, but according to Alan Ball, the Exeter manager, "the form book goes out of the windows in these games. My players could freeze, or they could really get after Villa."

Rangers must contend with the 6ft 7in Stockport striker, Kevin Francis, at Edgeley Park. Wycombe Wanderers will hope to capitalise on any discontent in the Norwich camp, while of the Premiership sides at home to Endsleigh League opposition, Manchester City, Southampton and Oldham Athletic are far from safe bets.

FA CUP



HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Wondering where the Wanderers' future lies, O'Neill in his familiar place in the Wycombe dugout before today's FA Cup third-round visit of Norwich City

O'Neill presents right managerial credentials

Andrew Longmore on a man with mixed feelings about Norwich's fortunes

Wycombe Wanderers have been taking an unusually keen interest in the managerial tug-of-war at Norwich. It is not just that the departure of Mike Walker could have unsettled their opponents nicely in time for the third round of the FA Cup today, but that Martin O'Neill, the ebullient chatterbox who has been at the heart of Wycombe's rise to prominence over the past three years, is sure to be among the candidates to fill the vacancy.

At least O'Neill, with a typically extrovert flourish, hopes he will be. "I would be deeply disappointed if my name was not among the candidates," he said.

Not that the Irishman, who turned down the chance to follow Brian Clough at Nottingham Forest, would be guaranteed to accept. He knows he still has work to do at Wycombe, who have high ambitions but are, like Norwich, a model of low-budget maintenance, and that he has a freedom to do it not enjoyed by too many managers in the country.

"Let's face it, it would be good for the ego to be considered if it came down to it," O'Neill added, "but it would seem a wee bit daft to talk, as I did last summer, about finishing the job here and then push off four months later. What am I saying? To be honest, I'm not really sure."

It is one those twists of fortunes so central to this stage of the Cup that victory for Wycombe over one of his former clubs this afternoon would be an ideal advertisement for the claims of O'Neill as well as the growing prestige of the club he has guided from the middle of the GM Vauxhall Conference into the thick of the race for promotion to the Endsleigh Insurance League second division. Visions of those other two "Ws", Wimbledon and Watford, hang over Wycombe's spanking new ground at Adams Park, but the exploits of Norwich provide a further example of what can be done by well-run clubs determined to live within their means.

Not in their wildest dreams could Wycombe ever become a Liverpool or a Manchester United. But Norwich City? With the right manager, good organisation, sensible accountancy and a slice of luck, there is just a chance. Wycombe are already making plans for the next decade while trying to keep a healthy sense of perspective.

"It is a difficult balance for a small club to maintain," John Goldsworthy, the long-serving secretary of Wycombe, said. "We're not wanting to rush things, but we're not going to sit back and wait until they happen either. We're ambitious and we have to plan ahead." Wycombe's constitution, set up in 1986, two years after the club's centenary, ensures that no egos will get in the way. The club has 200 shareholders, each holding the maximum of one share. Each share costs a pound and anyone who has held a season ticket for three years is eligible to buy one. The most any of them could lose is £10.

Quite whether the foundations of support are as solid as the set-up, only a long barren spell will tell. Crowds this season average just over 5,000, an increase of nearly 3,000 over the past three years, from a catchment area estimated at 150,000, while 25,000 supporters travelled to Wembley for the final of the FA Trophy last year. However, their loyalty has not been tested yet.

"We've progressed more quickly than anyone believed was possible, but I really don't know how much further we can go." O'Neill said. "It's been a steady rise all the way, there's been no plateau, but anyone who thinks there won't be one is in for a massive awakening. When I've lost four on the trot, I'll know what the situation really is here."

Since his arrival three years ago, O'Neill has worked hard to establish a tradition that moulds the old Corinthian ways with a tougher, more professional attitude. All except two of the staff have turned full-time this season and the ease with which the side has adapted to league football suggests that O'Neill has found the right blend.

Equally important, he has fashioned a club in the image of the community — smart, modern, cost-conscious, streamlined and, for the moment, successful. The new ground, with its low level red brick offices and neat stands, fits perfectly into its surrounds on a soulless light industrial estate on the outskirts of the town and the ill-feeling which accompanied the move from the more characterful Loakes Park has largely been submerged.

Wanderers came top of a survey carried out recently by a new local radio station to establish what the liveliest topics of conversation were on the streets and local companies have been quick to identify themselves with such a progressive club. Victory today in only the club's third visit to this stage of the Cup in their 109-year history might show O'Neill as well exactly where his future lies.

Optimism at realistic Wanderers

Peter Ball looks at a traditional club whose modern style could add to Everton's woes

FA CUP matches at Burnden Park between Bolton Wanderers and the big-city clubs have always had a special flavour. Troubled Everton's visit today will continue the tradition, bringing Bolton's vibrant managerial team of Bruce Rioch and Colin Todd up against one of their old clubs. Bolton have a great cup tradition, as Liverpool, their last major victims 12 months ago, learned the hardest way.

Nowadays with a supermarket at one end, Burnden lacks the resonance of the times when 50,000 watched Nat Lofthouse terrify goalkeepers, and Tommy Banks and Roy Hartle send wingers crashing on to the cinder track.

But the stadium will have a full all-ticket crowd of 22,500, and after the week's rain the pitch will be heavy, ideal for the kind of sliding tackle beloved of underdogs or old Bolton full backs.

Everton at least have no need to fear being kicked up in the air. These days, under Bruce Rioch, Bolton are a passing side, playing some delightful football, but the threat they offer is a serious one, with some telling parallels with last season when they defeated Liverpool.

"It is very similar to last year," Rioch said. "We were in very good form, and had a run of 15 games undefeated, which ended at West Brom the game before we met Liverpool. This year we're meeting the other Merseyside team, having just ended a 16-game unbeaten run when we lost at Wolverhampton."

Of Everton's problems Rioch said: "When you've been on a losing run, it is the mental toughness rather than the physical that is the real issue. But we approach the game knowing that the it will be most difficult, because irrespective of the difficulties at Goodison, they are still a Premier League team with Premier League and international players, and they will come here expecting to win.

"But we can approach the game knowing that we will require to give 100 per cent effort, and to enjoy it. They don't come any bigger than Everton, so we must look forward to a game like that. It stimulates the players, the town, the directors."



Rioch: stimulated

Bolton is a real football town, and it does not take much to stimulate it. Since Rioch arrived 18 months ago, the club has begun to revive, with promotion and a significant cup run last season. Today's game will be the third full house in a year, and 18,000 came for the match with Sunderland last week.

Paul McGinley returns to give Bolton a cutting edge and Everton caretaker manager, Jimmy Gabriel, is made happier by the return to fitness of Paul Rideout and Matt Jackson. Both passed fitness tests yesterday to confirm their places in a 16-man squad which Gabriel hopes will bring him a first victory in his last game as temporary manager.

Lambie wary of his own success

Kevin McCarra finds the Partick Thistle manager deflecting praise for his work

SOME compliments are suspicious. John Lambie, the Partick Thistle manager, is wary when you suggest that he has been signing droves of skilful players in the past year or two. Perhaps he fears that he is being accused of prissiness. Idealism is a dreadful charge to level against a club still trying to secure its place in the premier division.

Therefore, Lambie sidesteps the praise: "I wish I had a different team I could play for the away games. It would be good if we had the Paul Ince sort of player in the midfield." Newcomers bearing a passable resemblance to Giggs and Cantona would not go amiss either. Still, you take his point.

In their last sortie out of Firhill, Thistle were beaten 5-1 by Hibernian at Easter Road. Recollection of that is unlikely to comfort a Celtic side weakened by injury as they travel to meet Lambie's team today. At home, Thistle have been crisp rather than brittle; Aberdeen were beaten there and Rangers had to scramble for a point.

In the soothing surroundings of their home ground, a midfield that looks fanciful can be beguiling. Ian Cameron, Albert Craig and Alex Taylor are stylists rather than sluggers. In November, Lambie even added to the artistry by bringing Chic Charnley, who had been playing in Sweden, back to the club.

Although Charnley is a delicate user of the ball, roughhouse incidents have brought a history of red cards. Nonetheless, while many observers regard him as a gilded wastrel, he has still to exhaust his talent.

"Chic has the ability," Lambie said, "and it is just a matter of getting him to use it. All the doubts about him are in other people's minds, not mine."

Praise of Thistle is repulsed: "Look at Falkirk last season," he insisted. "They were going to Parkhead, Ibrox and Pittodrie and being told they played great football. What happened in the end? They got relegated." He insisted his own decisions at Firhill have only been pragmatic.

Certainly you would not mistake him for a misty-eyed theorist. He can be loud and crude on occasion and disputes with players have not been uncommon. It is said that he occasionally took a golf club with him last season and practised his swing while the squad trained in a nearby park. The odd ball whistled past players. Not everyone appreciated this method of developing their alertness.

The zest for the game that sustains him in this, his second spell as Thistle manager, is, however, undoubted. Lambie does not flinch from the task of overhauling his side. Freshness is all at a club that must struggle each season for a handhold in the premier division.

Half of the present team have been signed since the summer. They were assembled in flagrant defiance of the belief that you cannot get something for nothing. Indeed, his moves in the transfer market almost amount to legerdemain. Craig, who was taken on after being released by Dundee, has scored a handsome 14 goals from midfield.

Whether he admits it or not, Lambie has always been ready to depend on those who have been branded as unreliable elsewhere and there has invariably been a winger or two in his teams. As opponents have found out, the supposedly frivolous talents can do some serious damage.

Wigan legend is hoping for great things from the club's £400,000 Samoan

'Inga the Wiganer' takes his bow

By Christopher Irvine



Tuigamala poses in Wigan's well-stocked trophy room yesterday after meeting his new team-mates. Photograph: Barry Greenwood

THERE is no folk hero bigger in Wigan than Billy Boston. Yesterday, the player bought for £400,000 from New Zealand rugby union to try and emulate him was asked for his opinion of the legend.

"To be honest, I've never heard of him," Va'aiga Tuigamala said, but it was the only false move he made on his official welcome to rugby league.

A drop kick from Central Park, Boston was serving his lunchtime regulars at the Griffin Hotel. Here, comparisons bewteen the Wigan sides of yesteryear and today flow as freely as the ale, and the debating society had the qualities of Boston and Tuigamala at the top of its agenda.

Boston, scorer of 478 tries for Wigan between 1953 and 1968, thought Tuigamala's ignorance rather refreshing. "It's here and now that's important and I hope he breaks every record in the book," he said. "I grew into a big fella, but this lad's got the size and more. The people round here can't wait to see him get stuck in."

At the earliest, it will be two or three weeks before Tuigamala, 24, makes his first appearance. As well as acclimatising himself, he will have to shift a few surplus pounds in weight.

"I do have a problem. Most Polynesians, when they don't train, blow up. I don't think, now I'm here, there's a possibility of that happening," he said. His natural bulk has helped the Samoan crash through defences throughout his rugby life. But in the 13-man code, the tackles come in more frequently and the requirements for upper body strength are much greater.

On the day that "Inga the Winger" finally became "Inga the Wiganer", he expressed no regrets at having turned his back on the All Blacks after 19 international appearances. He was happy to have secured financial security for his family — his contract at Wigan runs until 1998 — and was looking forward a new career in a game that seems ideally suited to his explosive running and muscular directness.

Tuigamala said he was looking forward to playing alongside Martin Offiah and was surprised to hear rumours that the Great Britain winger might be moving. "I'm just glad to be here," he said. "If the coach stuck me at prop, I'd be happy. It will take a while. I've got to work my way into the team and the way of playing."

Where he will probably end up is centre, as a replacement for Dean Bell, the captain, who is joining Auckland Warriors at the end of the season, although Tuigamala's natural instinct during his first workout was to move out to the left wing. "Habits die hard, I suppose," he said.

He accepted Wigan's offer, which he refused last summer, after the New Zealand tour had helped him gauge the severity of the challenge. While there was funding for education and business from the New Zealand Rugby Football Union, it came nowhere near matching Wigan's pay cheque.

Whether Tuigamala will be the last of the present crop of All Blacks to change codes is the subject of increasing speculation. The new Auckland club, which has already raided several English rugby league sides, is reportedly hopeful of picking up another union defector.

"It's really up to the players themselves," Tuigamala said. "Rugby union has been really good to me and given me a base to move on and take the opportunities in another field." The first of these will come later this month in Wigan's Alliance team, when the attendance of 8,000 for the reserve match which marked Boston's debut could well be surpassed.

Today, he will be in the stand at Salford for Wigan's Regal Trophy semi-final to begin the learning process.

Tackle catches Kangaroos on the hop



Simon Barnes

On Saturday



GREAT artistry excites great passions. The dreaded Langer Leg Tackle has divided Australia and provoked a snarling row the length and breadth of rugby league. It looks as if the rules of the game will be changed to curb the effectiveness of a single player. Naturally his team, Brisbane Broncos, thinks the whole thing is a terrible devious Sydneysider plot. Perish *la pense*, says Outraged of Sydney.

At the heart of the matter is Allan "Alfie" Langer, scrum half of Brisbane and Australia. He is 5ft 5in and 11st, which is not a lot of body for this rather rough game. But he has invented a brilliant way of stopping opponents: he grabs them with one hand and scythes them down with his leg. Jolly effective, but not quite 100 per cent legal.

At least, opposition coaches have been crying foul, and the Australian Rugby League has called for a ban. The matter comes up for discussion when the International Rugby League Board meets next month. Brisbane is furious. The *Brisbane Courier-Mail* ran a blistering editorial on the subject. "I suppose that sort of thing was predictable," Ken Arthurson, chief executive of the Australian Rugby League, said. "But it is absolute rubbish to suggest that this was a plot hatched by New South Welshmen to curb Langer's style." Indeed, the Australia team tours Great Britain in October, and a curbed Langer would be a sad thing for the Kangaroos.

Happy new year

Thanks to the Dutch Football Federation for the nice Christmas card it sent to The Times. It shows a grinning Dutch supporter, and bears the happy legend: "See you in the USA."

Artful Dodge

An early bid for marathon runner of the year comes from the great Cathy Dodge. She has just learnt that she has been disqualified from the San Francisco marathon, run last summer. Dodge was one of the leading finishers in the veterans section. But belated checking of the race videos showed that she did not pass through all the checkpoints. Boston race officials double-checked their own videos and, surprise surprise, the not-inaptly named Ms Dodge had done it again.

Boston is a bit hypersensitive on this point; in 1980, the great Rosie Ruiz ran only the finish and was the official winner for days before she was rumbled. However, the greatest marathon hero of them all is Abbes Tehami, who came within an ace of taking the first prize of £4,100 in the Brussels marathon in 1991. But lynx-eyed officials noticed that the man wearing No 62 at the start was short and moustached. The victorious runner was tall and clean-shaven. Tehami's coach, Bensalem Hamiani, had run the first seven miles of the race before handing over to Tehami.

Irish out of luck

Now we all understand about sport, don't we? Everybody tries to beat everybody else, and the team or individual that beats most people is the winner. Simple. But not in American college football, a colossally popular game that obsesses half the nation. In a world where democracy has run crazy, the best college team is, believe it or not, decided by a vote. The propensity for horrific rows is almost infinite, and the United States is reeling under a spectacular example of the same.

The reason for this eccentric system is that not all the leading teams play against each other. So the ranking is decided by the "Top 25 Coaches Poll". After the last game was played on January 1, the situation was that Florida State University, a.k.a. the Seminoles, and Notre Dame ("The Fighting Irish") had each lost one game. On November 13, the Seminoles lost theirs — to the Irish, who won 31-24. That, to a layman, would seem to be decisive. Not a bit of it. It was the Seminoles who were voted top team. The coach of the Irish, Lou Holtz, was bitter: "I guess head-to-head confrontation doesn't count for much." It is only, after all, the very stuff of sport.

Rockets take off

The football match of the season so far involved Rockbeare Rockets against Bradnich in Devon. The Rockets were losing 6-2 when the referee, Ian Barnett, sent off the fifth member of their side. They had already been persuaded to return from a walk-off protest, but the final straw came when Gary White, the Rockets skipper, was sent off for dissent.

The match was then abandoned because FIFA insists on seven a side as a minimum for proper football. "It wasn't a nasty game," Dave Clapp, vice-president of the club and the goalkeeper, who was sent off for a professional foul, said. "But that obviously wasn't how the referee saw it."

Gregory revives Salford's challenge

By Christopher Irvine

IN SEVEN weeks, a rejuvenated Andy Gregory has transformed Salford from rugby league no-hopers to cup contenders, and a good deal more besides. Their televised Regal Trophy semi-final at home to Wigan today is the culmination of a run of seven wins in eight matches since Gregory assumed the pivotal role of scrum half.

Garry Jack, the Salford player-coach, asked whether he had simply picked up a has-been for £10,000, said age was of no relevance. At 32, neither Gregory nor Jack looks out of place in a Salford side best described as experienced.

Until Gregory's arrival, Salford were looking their age. A place off the bottom of the Stones Bitter Championship, the worry of relegation from the first division was haunting them. But after 15 wretched months at Leeds, Gregory has brought about his salvation and that of the team.

With the move from Wigan to Leeds in 1992, his halcyon days seemed at an end. Injuries and a clash of egos at Headingley left Gregory dispirited and disaffected.

Proof that confidence is a state of mind was immediately found at Salford, as Gregory cast off his cares to lead them to a first away win in a year on his debut at Hull Kingston Rovers. One man may not make a team, but he can make it tick, and Gregory has unleashed one of the most potent and adventurous attacking forces of late.



Gregory: pivotal role

In the mud at Batley, carrying a knee injury, he came off the bench at half-time to turn a deficit of 8-0 into a 12-8 victory in the third round. Yet it was a bewitching display in the quarter-finals four days later to demolish Hull which endorsed the view that Gregory still possesses few peers.

Gregory is looking forward to the confrontation with his former half-back partner, Shaun Edwards, who passed a fitness test on his injured shoulder yesterday. "Wigan are odds-on favourites and they are as strong now as ever," Gregory said. "But they're only human, and cup shocks can happen, as I know only too well here."

Salford overcame Wigan 24-14 in the third round of the same competition in 1991. The holders have been this way before, and unless Gregory can conjure some new tricks, a place in the final against Castleford at Headingley in two weeks' time should be theirs.

Bradford Northern, who have suffered two successive defeats, yesterday dismissed their former player-coach and captain, David Hobbs, and the hooker, Brian Noble. The club also put up for sale the centre, Steve McGowan, for £40,000, and the Welsh wing, Gerald Cordle, for £15,000. Chris Caisley, the Bradford chairman, said a greater emphasis would be put on youth.

At the top of the first division, Warrington must beat a resurgent Leeds at home tomorrow to move ahead of Wigan once more. After their defeat at Hull in midweek, Bradford have the chance to revive their championship ambitions at home to Oldham.

Britain make smart use of substitutions

From Sydney Friskin in Barcelona

GREAT Britain made the start they wanted in the Three Nations hockey tournament by beating Belgium 3-0 at the Real Club de Polo here yesterday.

An early offensive led to a goal in 56 seconds with Robert Thompson flinging himself forward to score from a centre by Don Williams. Several substitutions were then made in the British team — with the desired effect.

Chris Mayer made his entrance after Williams had been tripped by Jean Buisset. Soon, Robert Crutchley and Phillip McGuire made their appearance in the attack which underwent a few positional changes.

Eight minutes into the second half Russell Garcia indirectly converted a short corner for the second goal and added the third from a similar award ten minutes later with a brilliant flick into the net. This meant that Britain had converted two of their four short corners in the match.

However, Britain survived a few moments of anxiety. Their goal had a remarkable escape in the fifteenth minute when Erik Vandergracht shot wide from ten yards. The same player muffed a chance at even closer quarters shortly after Britain's second goal.

Britain had used four substitutes, the odd man out being David Luckes, who was kept on the bench by Simon Mason's sound goalkeeping. Belgium made only one substitution.

OTHER RESULTS: Los Reyes Tournament: Seniors: Polo Club 1 Southgate 1; El Cid 2 Hounslow 2. Juniors: Spanish Under-18 1 Kingston Grammer School 3. Polo Club 4 King's Canterbury 1. Veterans: Polo Club 3 Bloemendaal (Hol) 1. Women: Seniors: Real Sociedad (Sp) 1 Slough 1 Juniors: Polo Club 1 King's Canterbury 4.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
* all ticket matches

FA Cup
Third round
Barnet v Chelsea (at Stamford Bridge)
Birmingham v Kidderminster
Blackburn v Portsmouth
* Bolton v Everton
* Bristol City v Liverpool
* Bromsgrove v Barnsley
Cardiff v Middlesbrough
Charlton v Burnley
* Exeter v Aston Villa
Grimsby v Wigan
Leeds v Crewe
Luton v Southend P
Man City v Leicester
* Newcastle v Coventry
Notts County v Sutton Utd
Oldham v Derby
Oxford Utd v Tranmere
* Peterborough v Tottenham
Plymouth v Chester
Preston v Bournemouth
Sheff Wed v Notts Forest
Southampton v Port Vale
* Stockport v QPR
Stoke v Bath
Sunderland v Carlisle
Swindon v Ipswich
West Ham v Watford
Wimbledon v Scunthorpe
Wolverhampton v Crystal Palace
* Wycombe v Norwich

Endsleigh Insurance League
Second division
Blackpool v Fulham
Bradford v Leyton Orient
Brentford v Bristol Rovers
Cambridge Utd v York P
Hudderfield v Wrexham
Hull v Brighton
Reading v Hartlepool
Third division
Chesterfield v Colchester
Doncaster v Torquay
Hereford v Darlington
Rochdale v Shrewsbury
Scarborough v Northampton

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: First division: Old Brentonians v Mid Hill; Old Pitchcroftians v Wilson

GM Vauxhall Conference
Altrincham v Woking
Dag & Red v Macclesfield
Kettering v Halifax
Northwich v Dover
Runcorn v Slough
Stalybridge v Merthyr
Telford v Gateshead
Welling v Wilton
Yeovil v Stafford

Tennants Scottish Cup
First round replay
Huntly v Albion P

Second round
Alloa v Gala
Berwick v East Fife P
Cowdenbeath v Stenhousemuir P
East Stirling v Cove
Forfar v Ross County
Meadowbank v Montrose
Selkirk v Arbroath (2.15) P

Scottish League
Premier division
Aberdeen v St Johnstone
Dundee Utd v Hearts
Hibernian v Dundee
Motherwell v Raith
Partick v Celtic
Rangers v Kilmarnock

First division
Ayr v Dumbarton
Clydebank v Clyde
Dunfermline v Airdrie
Hamilton v Falkirk
Morton v Brechin
Stirling v St Mirren

Second division
Albion v Stranraer

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley v Gainsborough; Barrow v Bridlington; Boston v Droylsden. Colwyn Bay v Horwich; Hyde v Buxton; Knowsley Utd v Frickley; Leek v Emley; Matlock v Chorley; Whitley Bay v Marine; Winsford v Morecambe. First division: Ashton v Workington; Bamber Bridge v Goole, Caernarfon v Warrington; Congleton v Radcliffe, Farsley v Mossley; Guiseley v Netherfield; Harrogate v Curzon Ashton; Lancaster v Alsager. League Cup: Knowsley v Eastwood.

Beazer Homes League
Premier division
Bunon v Bashley
Chelmsford v Moor Green
Corby v Crawley
Dorchester v Worcester
Gloucester v Atherstone
Hastings v Cheltenham
Nuneaton v Sittingbourne
Solihull v Cambridge City
OTHER MATCHES: Midland division: Armitage v Rushden and Diamonds; Bilston v Hinckley; Clevedon v Stourbridge; Dudley v Yate; Forest Green v Tamworth; Grantham v Bridgnorth, Leicester U v Newport AFC; RC Warwick v Weston-super-Mare; Redditch v Bedworth.

Diadora League
Premier division
Basingstoke v Harrow
Chesham v Hayes
Dulwich v Dorking
Grays v Carshalton
Hendon v Kingstonian
Marlow v Wivenhoe
Molesey v Wokingham
St Albans v Hitchin
Stevenage Borough v Bromley P
Yeading v Enfield
OTHER MATCHES: First division: Abingdon v Barking; Billericay v Staines; Bognor Regis v Tooting and Mitcham; Boreham Wood v Croydon; Heybridge v Chalfont St Peter; Leyton v Berkhamsted; Maidenhead v Purfleet; Uxbridge v Worthing; Walton and Hersham v Windsor and Eton.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Glasshoughton v Hucknall; Lincoln Utd v Brigg, Liversedge v North Ferriby; Maltby v Pontefract; Ossett Albion v Denaby; Pickering v Ashfield, Thackley v Ossett Town.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester Le Street v Hebburn, Dunston v Ferryhill; Durham v Eppleton, Gateshead v Consett; Newcastle Blue Star v Shildon; Northallerton v Brandon; Seaham v Tow Law, West Auckland v Billingham.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: First division: Phoenix v Latymer; Old Wokingians v Clapham; Enfield v Old Salvatorians; Old Westhamians v Old Isleworthians.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballymena v Ards; Bangor v Portadown; Crusaders v Coleraine; Distillery v Carrick; Glenavon v Glentoran; Larne v Cliftonville; Linfield v Ballyclare; Omagh Town v Newry.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Llanelli; Alan Lido v Inter Cardiff; Conwy v Mold; Flint v Llansantffraid (2.30); Haverfordwest v Cwmbran; Maesteg v Ebbw Vale; Nawlown v Holywell; Porthmadog v Caersws, Ton Pentre v Briton Ferry (2.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Regal Trophy
Semi-final
Salford v Wigan (2.15)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Egremont v Leigh MW; West Hull v Hemel Hempstead; Wigan St Patricks v Saddleworth.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
Courage Clubs Championship
First division
Bath v Bristol
Leicester v Northampton
London Irish v Harlequins
Newcastle Gosforth v Orrell
Wasps v Gloucester
Second division
Moseley v Saracens
Otley v Nottingham (2.15)
Rugby v Wakefield
Sale v London Scottish
Waterloo v West Hartlepool (2.15)
Third division
Bedford v Exeter P
Blackheath v Havant (2.0)
Morley v Fylde
Redruth v Coventry (2.30)
Richmond v Rosslyn Park (2.15)

Fourth division
Aspatria v Harrogate (2.30)
Clifton v Plymouth (2.30)
Leeds v Broughton Park (2.30)
Sheffield v Liverpool St Helens (2.15)
Sudbury v Askeans (2.15)
Fifth division north
Bradford & Bingley v Kendal (2.15)
Preston Grasshoppers v Birmingham Solihull (2.15)
Rotherham v Durham (2.15)
Stourbridge v Hereford
Walsall v Nuneaton (2.15)
Winnington Park v Stoke on Trent (2.30)
Fifth division south
London Welsh v Lydney (2.15)
Maidstone v High Wycombe (2.30)
Met Police v Basingstoke
Reading v North Walsham (2.15)
Southend v Camborne (2.0)
Taband v Weston-super-Mare P

Swalec Cup
Fourth round
Abercarn v Pyle (2.30)
Oakdale v Builth Wells (2.30)
Heineken League
First division
Newbridge v Aberavon (2.30)
Newport v Pontypool (2.30)
Club matches
Kick-off 2.30
Bridgend v South Wales Police
Cross Keys v Abertillery
Ebbw Vale v Pontypridd
Glamorgan Wndrs v Cardiff
Llandovery v Neath
Mountain Ash v Senghenydd
Narberth v Dunvant
Penarth v Berry Hill
Swansea v Maesteg
Tonyrefail v Treorchy

McEwan's National League
Kick-off 2.0
First division
Boroughmuir v Watsonians
Gala v Hawick
Harlots FP v Melrose
Kelso v Stirling County
Selkirk v Jed-Forest P
Stewarts Mel FP v Edinburgh Acad
West of Scotland v Currie
Second division
Ayr v Dundee HSFP
Clarkston v Grangemouth
Glasgow High v Wigtownshire
Heddington v Edinburgh Wndrs
Kirkcaldy v Glasgow Acad
Musselburgh v Bigger
Peebles v Preston Lodge

Insurance Corporation League
First division
Blackrock College v Greystones
Cork Constitution v Wanderers
Garryowan v St Mary's College
Lansdowne v Dungannon
Young Munster v Old Wesley
Second division
Bangor v Malone
Galwegians v Old Crescent
Instonians v Ballymena
Tarenure v Dolphin

PILKINGTON SHIELD: Fifth round: Postponed: Dunmouth v Barton Hill.

BASKETBALL

Budweiser League
Hemel Hempstead v Chester
Leicester v Thames Valley
London v Birmingham
Manchester v Guildford
Oldham v Doncaster
Worthing v Sunderland

Men's National League
First division
Bury v Crystal Palace
Plymouth v Ware
Solent v Sedgefield
SECOND DIVISION: Chilton v Leicester; Guildford v Liverpool; London v Swindon; Mid Sussex v Lewsham. Northampton v *Nottingham*

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Barking and Dagenham v Rhondda; Northampton v London, Thames Valley v South Tyneside. Second division: Guildford v Spelthorne; Plymouth v Leicester; Sunderland v London.

ICE HOCKEY

British League
Premier division
Fife v Nottingham
Humberside v Murrayfield
Whitley v Bracknell
Teeside v Cardiff
First division
Durnfries v Romford
Lee Valley v Guildford
Milton Keynes v Medway
Paisley v Oxford
Slough v Swindon
Telford v Blackburn
Trafford v Solihull

OTHER SPORT

DARTS: Embassy world championship (Frimley Green)

GOLF: President's Putter (Rye).

VOLLEYBALL: Royal Bank of Scotland National League: Men: First division: Whitefield v Leeds; Tooting v Newcastle; Wessex v Liverpool, Ealing v Lewisham. Second division: Essex v Stockport; London Lynx v Manchester; Gateshead v Coventry; Sheffield v Trent, Lewisham v Thames Valley, Dynamo London v Speedwell

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

FA Cup
Third round
Sheffield Utd v Man Utd (all ticket) (3.05)

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Cobh v Drogheda; Derry v Galway; Dundalk v Cork; Limerick v Shamrock Rovers; Shelbourne v Bohemians; St Patrick's v Monaghan

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester v London; Doncaster v Hemel Hempstead; Sunderland v Guildford.
WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Chester v Bristol; Ipswich v South Tyneside; Birmingham v Sheffield; Nottingham v Thames Valley.

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Sheffield; Fife v Durham, Murrayfield v Nottingham; Peterborough v Bracknell; Whitley v Cardiff. First division: Blackburn v Romford; Chelmsford v Telford; Guildford v Milton Keynes; Lee Valley v Streatham, Medway v Trafford; Paisley v Durnfries; Solihull v Oxford.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
Stones Bitter Championship
First division
Bradford v Oldham
Castleford v Sheffield (3.30)
Halifax v Hull
Hull KR v Featherstone (3.15)
Warrington v Leeds
Second division
Barrow v Swinton (2.0)
Bramley v Doncaster (3.30)
Dewsbury v Highfield (3.30)
Hunslet v Carlisle (3.30)
London v Keighley
Rochdale v Huddersfield
Ryedale York v Whitehaven (3.15)
Workington v Batley

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CUP: Fifth round: Belper v Havant; British Airways v Folkestone; Buckingham v Yorkshire Bank; Daten v Chester; Deeside v Wembley; Green Dragons v St Austell; Hampstead & Westminster v Kettering; Haverhill v Southgate, Hendon v Bridgnorth, Ipswich and East v Heywood, Letchworth v Maidenhead; Lillington v Rugby; Middleton v West Witney; Old Loughtonians v Milton Keynes; Pavlours v Phoenix; Pelicans v Greater Manchester Police; Penzance v York; Portsmouth v Cheam; Port Sunlight v Hounslow; Redbridge v Bedford College of HE, Redditch v Bath; Rolls Royce v Eastleigh; Roseberry v North Devon; St Ives v Bexleyheath, Saracens v BRFC; Springfields v Winnington Park; Sunbury v Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead, Tunbridge Wells v Cresta; Waltham Forest v Firebrands; West Wilts v Holmes Chapel; Worksop v Camberley.

OTHER SPORT

DARTS: Embassy world championship (Frimley Green).
CYCLO-CROSS: National cyclo-cross championships (Southampton Sports Centre)
GOLF: President's Putter (Rye).
VOLLEYBALL: Royal Bank of Scotland National League: Men: Second division: London v Stockport; Essex v Manchester; Sheffield v Coventry, Gateshead v Trent, Dynamo London v Thames Valley; Lewisham v Speedwell.

Saturday portrait: Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean by Andrew Longmore

First couple of dance melting hearts with a show of perfection

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN



Like those faithful musical pairings, love and marriage, and horse and carriage, you can't have one without the other. Separately, Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean are merely extraordinary athletes; together, they live with an intensity which extends way beyond the boundaries of sport.

Andrew Guild, the co-producer of the couple's professional tours, could summon just one comparison from 30 years of presenting theatre, ballet, circus and dance. Margot Fonteyn and Rudolf Nureyev. "They have the same power to mesmerise an audience. Even in practice, you find yourself drawn into watching them and no one else. You scratch your head and ask 'why' because seeing them off the ice you wouldn't suspect they could possess such magic."

But only together. Only together have they been able to touch perfection, excite the soul and lift ice dancing out of its precious little world and into the grasp of everybody who has a drop of emotion in their bodies. Like screen idols, they have played out a relationship in full public view and if Hollywood would long since have had the small-town couple who conquered the world skating off into the sunset to live happily ever after, the reality is much less corny and far more complex.

Since the day in 1975 when Janet Sawbridge, their first coach, looked down a list of possible partners for Dean and chose Jayne Torvill, there has been an element of fantasy about their careers. They have been European champions three times, world champions four times and were British champion for six consecutive years from 1978, quite apart from winning Olympic gold in 1984.

From the early days in Nottingham, where he was a policeman and she a building society clerk, they have skated through love, very probably through joy, pain, anguish, despair and emerged on the other side of the sunset. Through it all, their business partnership, their original friendship and, as the audience at the Sheffield Arena will find out again today, their creative energy remain intact. Longevity is what marks Torvill and Dean out from the host of great teams in sport, music and theatre, who have blossomed and died in their moment of ultimate glory. "We still have the rapport we always had," Dean said. "We get on as people."

They have enjoyed their moment of ecstasy, at the Winter Olympics in Sarajevo in 1984, when their interpretation of Ravel's *Bolero* made time stand still and rendered the notion of perfection temporarily obsolete. That night was about more than just business, more than winning or losing a gold medal, it was a display of intimacy between two people so committed to their passion they did not care if the whole world tuned in. It had to be that, didn't it? "It was St Valentine's Day and I gave Jayne an orchid," Dean said. "She gave me a kiss. When we knelt down on the ice we looked into each other's eyes and saw total commitment. It was almost as if we were looking into each other's soul." That is not the ordinary language of victory. Even the more pragmatic Torvill talked of a "kind of trance". And yet, perhaps we all presumed the nature of the commitment, mistook sexual attraction for perfect professionalism.

> Only together have they been able to touch perfection and lift ice dancing out of its precious little world

Maybe it *was*, after all, a commitment to winning, to fulfilling an unspoken pact entered during hours and hours of practice through childhood and into youth. Maybe, the world saw what it wanted to see and the harmony, the instinctive understanding one of the other was pure chance or the product of total dedication. As Dean himself asked once: "What's the chance of somebody else coming along with the same temperament, the right age, in the right place, at the right time?" At times, during arduous eight-show a week tours, Torvill and Dean have had to be bullied into skating *Bolero*, which might have been a reflection of staleness or of changing patterns in their relationship. It must be hard to summon the required emotion looking into the eyes of a business partner.

Some pieces of the jigsaw can be fitted together with certainty. Physically, the two are almost ideal ice dance partners. Torvill is just over 5ft tall, strong, but not too overmuscled or heavy, Dean just under 6ft, neat, lithe, powerful. During their professional tour routines, he had to lift Torvill's 7½ st 96 times an evening. Both are by nature perfectionists.

"I never once, in four years of touring, ever saw them give less than their all. They never cheated the public," Jeannie Macpherson, their road manager, said. Nor have they been content just to soak up the money and the adulation. There was always another challenge to be found, of which a return to Olympic competition is the latest and, possibly, the last.

"They never took the easy option," Betty Calloway, their faithful coach, said last week. "They have kept stretching themselves with every new number they did." They also enjoy a natural friendship, based on shared interests like ballet, dance, clothes, which has been strong enough to absorb all the inevitable strains of working together for nearly 20 years. They still socialise off the ice, though Jayne is married to Phil Christiansen, a sound engineer who once worked for Genesis, and Chris has come through a brief but traumatic marriage to the French-Canadian skater, Isabelle Duchesnay. Since July, they have practised four hours a day in Milton Keynes, the intensity undimmed by their years on the road.

Temperamentally, they are well suited, Dean's flights of imagination being balanced by Torvill's realism. She is nearly a year older, 36 to 35, but matured more quickly. "I wouldn't discount Jayne's power in the relationship by one per cent," Guild said. "To look at them, you would imagine he's the boss, but Jayne has tremendous strength of character. She ain't a wallflower, believe me."

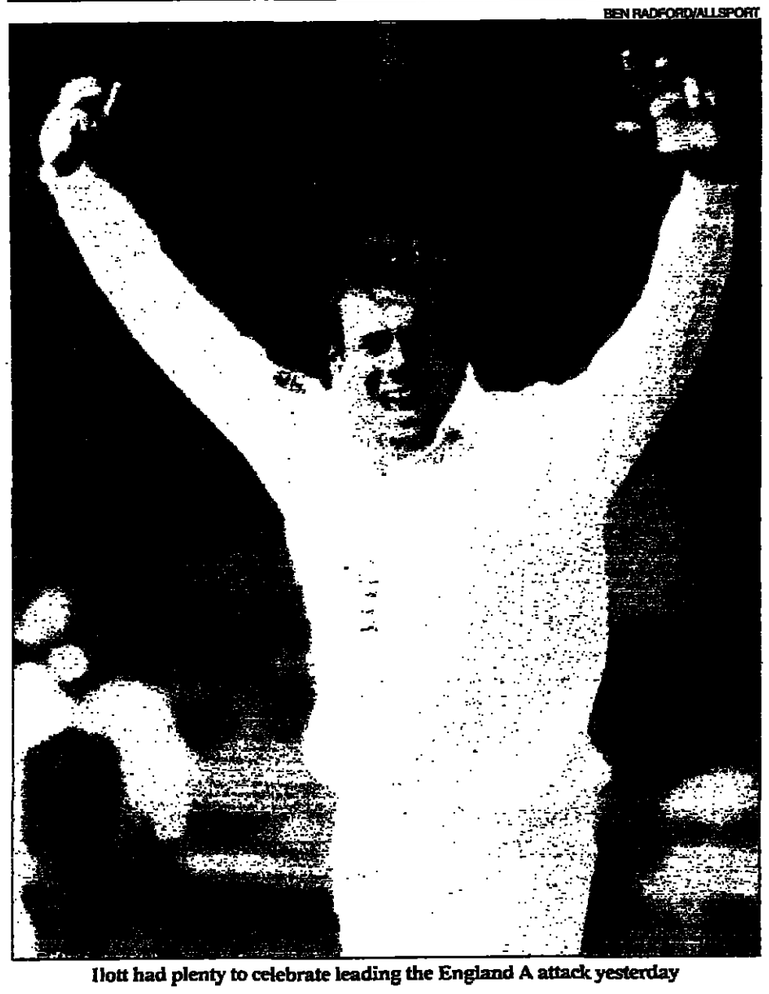
Yet even those who have watched them, worked with them most closely down the years either cannot or do not want to reveal the hidden element in the formula. Love, desire, respect, understanding, tolerance, friendship, frustration, anger, determination. They have all been mixed in at some point, the amounts of each ingredient doubtless changing with every passing phase of their lives. But the magic can still only be deduced, not defined.

"I don't know what their relationship is based on," Macpherson said. "It's not like husband and wife, it's not lovers, it's not brother and sister. Maybe it's just knowing each other so well and being able to accept each other's faults. They are kindred spirits."

Today, when they perform their new free dance routine for the first time at the British ice dance championships, we will know more. They have always revealed themselves on the ice and nothing in their meticulous preparations suggests that this will be any different.

But what, after all the years, is left? The fun, the fluidity and the creativity, certainly. Their choice of music is revealing: *Let's Face the Music and Dance*. Vaudeville instead of Ravel, fantasy romance in place of smouldering passion. The audience will not see another *Bolero* nor feel the tension. What they will see is grace, sport, art and two lives merging into one for a precious four minutes in which they should let their imaginations run as free as the wind.

BEN RADFORD/ALLSPORT



Ilott had plenty to celebrate leading the England A attack yesterday

Batsmen struggle as bowlers take control

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN VERWOERDBURG

CENTURION Park, with its Roman overtones, is an apt name for this green bowl of a ground when the cricketers are in such fear of their lives. On a cracked pitch, which behaved no less spitefully when the ball was old than when the shine was on, the batsmen might have addressed the groundsman: "Those who are about to die salute you".

This was a rivetting day's play, as long as you were 100 yards away. Every over held interest after Northern Transvaal won the toss. Those directly involved might have enjoyed something less awkward, like crossing the Kalahari with nails in their boots. The ball leapt and spat like a hooked marlin. England resume 57 runs behind with six wickets intact and must bat soberly if they are to take a decisive lead.

Morris remains there on a hard-earned 29 and England need him, Loye and Wells to make substantial scores. They will not want to chase too many batting last on this pitch. Last night, with his tail up, Steve Elworthy looked the best and most hostile bowler England have faced on this tour. If he does not come to England this summer, the South Africans must have some outstanding seamers.

Pace is only part of it. Rudi Bryson, who spent a forgettable summer at Surrey in 1992, is undeniably brisk, but now, as then, he sprayed it like a drunken sailor with a hosepipe. Elworthy hit the spot that Cork had located earlier and, being faster than Cork, made it rear alarmingly. His overnight figures are three for 22 from 13 excellent overs.

One of them, a maiden to Crawley, provided some of the best cricket of the tour. Elworthy got the ball to kick off a length, cut it back, swung it away and finally hit him on the helmet. Crawley played or — the mark of the true batsman — did not play with great assurance as Geoff Boycott, watching from the pavilion, must have noted. Then he got himself out.

Crawley always does his prep. Lathwell is the type who borrows other people's notes. Having got off the mark with a lucky boundary when a Bryson bouncer caught the shoulder of his bat, he selected a pull shot before Elworthy had bowled the ball and had his stumps rearranged. He should have been sent to bed without supper.

Others did their homework. Ilott bowled a marvellous spell with the new ball, taking three for 12, and McCague, who had problems of rhythm and line earlier, came back well after lunch. Cork bowled better than anyone and went empty-handed. He seemed to know it was never going to be his day. He did not stamp or shout.

He did not strive to bowl too quickly, opting for a good length from which the ball would fly every now and again. He went past the bat so often he would have taken seven wickets on more fortunate days. His first ten overs brought Northerns just five singles and nobody hit him for four. It was beautiful bowling.

The last ball of Cork's final over summed up his day. Instead of ending with his tenth maiden, Crawley and then Ilott surrendered overthrows, three runs in all, with more of the buffoonery that has disfigured England's outcricket. When the ball finally came to rest, Cork stuffed it in his pocket as if to put an end to the nonsense.

Two catches went down off McCague in the death throes of the innings before Cork, who grassed the second of them, held a good catch at second slip to give Ilott a deserved fourth wicket. Wonder of wonders, England achieved a direct run-out when Wells, at point, beat Bryson. On this tour, that is like being struck by lightning when there is no thunder in the air.

NORTHERN TRANSVAAL: First Innings

C B Lambert hit wkt b McCague	1
B J Sommerville c Rhodes b McCague	60
R F Pienaar c Cork b Ilott	1
M J R Rindel c McCague b Ilott	4
K J Rule lbw b Ilott	1
J J Strydom b Dale	12
D J Van Zyl c Rhodes b McCague	4
S Elworthy c Wells b Croft	24
R E Bryson run out	0
T Bosch c Cork b Ilott	13
C Van Noordwyk not out	6
Extras (b4, lb5, w3)	12
Total	138

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-11, 3-17, 4-24, 5-48, 6-61, 7-101, 8-101, 9-120.
BOWLING: McCague 18-4-34-3; Ilott 19.1-8-32-4; Cork 18-9-17-0; Dale 4-0-15-1; Croft 12-2-31-1.

ENGLAND A: First Innings

M N Lathwell b Elworthy	5
H Morris not out	29
J P Crawley c Sommerville b Elworthy	16
A Dale c Pienaar b Elworthy	11
M C Ilott c Lambert b Bosch	3
M B Loye not out	2
Extras (b4, lb5, nb6)	15
Total (4 wkts)	81

To bat: A P Wells, S J Rhodes, R D B Croft, D G Cork, M J McCague.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-58, 3-78, 4-79.
BOWLING: Bryson 5-1-24-0; Elworthy 13-7-22-3; Van Noordwyk 8-1-19-0; Bosch 8-3-7-1.

Odds are against wild-card winners

BY ROBERT KIRLEY

THE National Football League play-offs get under way this weekend with the first games in the wild-card programme, which rarely yields legitimate Super Bowl contenders.

Since 1970, 78 teams have participated in the play-offs as wild cards, the next-best finishers to the division winners. Four have reached the Super Bowl but only the 1980-81 Raiders took the championship, in Super Bowl XV.

Today, Pittsburgh, the best defenders in the American Football Conference (AFC), play the Kansas City Chiefs, of the AFC West, who are led by the evergreen passer, Joe Montana. Green Bay return to Pontiac, where they were defeated by Detroit last weekend in a game that determined the National Football Conference (NFC) Central winners.

On Sunday, Minnesota, the third NFC Central team in the play-offs, are away to the New York Giants, who are in post-season competition for the first time since their Super Bowl victory three years ago. Much credit must go to their first-year coach, Dan Reeves, formerly of Denver.

Denver face the Raiders, who prevailed in their overtime game last weekend. The Raiders have won eight of the past nine games between the clubs, but 17 of their past 21 contests have been decided by less than a touchdown.

Next weekend the favourites come in, with a repetition of the 1993 Dallas-Buffalo Super Bowl, won 52-17 by Dallas, a possibility. They enter the play-offs as the leading seeds in each conference.

FIXTURES (won-lost records in brackets): Wild-card games: Today: Pittsburgh (9-7) at Kansas City (11-5); Green Bay (9-7) at Detroit (10-6). Tomorrow: Minnesota (9-7) at NY Giants (11-5); Denver (9-7) at LA Raiders (10-6). Conference semi-finals: Jan 16: AFC: Pittsburgh, Denver or LA Raiders at Buffalo (12-4); NFC: Minnesota, NY Giants or Detroit at San Francisco (10-6). Jan 16: NFC: Green Bay, Minnesota or NY Giants at Dallas (12-4); AFC: Kansas City, LA Raiders or Denver at Houston (12-4). Conference finals: Jan 23 (at highest remaining seeds). Super Bowl XXVIII: Jan 30 (Georgia Dome, Atlanta).

Wessels happy to relinquish South African captaincy



ALAN LEE
Cricket Commentary

Kepler Wessels heads home from Sydney this weekend, leaving his South African team in better shape and better hands than seemed possible when his broken finger, sustained in dropping a slip catch, became the latest of many misfortunes which had dogged the side.

Suddenly, everything has changed, and Wessels acknowledges that the events of the past few days have hastened his departure from the captaincy. The closing stages of the stunning five-run Test defeat of Australia was orchestrated by Hansie Cronje, who, with Wessels' blessing, is soon to be more than merely caretaker captain.

"If it has to finish, I feel I have achieved what I set out to do," said Wessels yesterday. "I would have no bad feelings. In fact I would be very happy. I am pleased at the way the team has come together and I would have no problem at all playing under Hansie."

With those words, Wessels gracefully averted any possible embarrassment if the official verdict indicates Cronje should now keep the job. Wessels, 36, will have recovered in time for the series against Australia in South Africa in March but he has a dodgy knee and a limited future. Cronje is 24, fit, ambitious and talented, a leader since schooldays and already succeeding Wessels as the most influential batsman in the side.

Apart from Jonty Rhodes, whose fame in his own land knows no bounds, Cronje is now the most marketable cricketer in South Africa. In Sydney, both men emphasised that such status need not be transient, for if it is their personalities and athleticism which has won admirers, it is their temperament which will win matches at the highest level.

Others, such as Andrew Hudson and Daryll Cullinan, have been unable to translate their natural talent to a stage where mental fibre, as Graham Gooch called it, is the prerequisite. Rhodes and Cronje have high profiles but no great pretensions and will scrap and struggle to maximise their ability.

Prepare to hear much more of this pair when South Africa come to England later this year, for they are likely to number among the stars of the sporting summer. The same may be true of Allan Donald and of the ultimate match-winner in Sydney, Fanie de Villiers. But de Villiers is rising 30, indicative of the generation for whom readmission came only just in time and of the problem now endemic to South Africa's cricket.

Put simply, South Africa no longer has enough players of the quality to compete for Test places. Even the team which beat Australia has glaring weaknesses. And beneath it, the country's cream, is a very thin mixture indeed.

Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, knows the next issue his board must address. "We have no depth in our cricket," he admitted. "The years of isolation meant that incentives were few and competition decreased almost unnoticed. We have a good national team but the resources in support are slim."

Typically, Bacher is already working to remedy this, with the institution of a cricket academy based unashamedly on the Australian equivalent. I understand that Eddie Barlow will be offered the chance to apply his bucolic enthusiasm in the cause of inspiring a new generation of South Africans.

It is an important task and an urgent one, though it is unlikely that the South African public will be persuaded of its need right now. They have waited a very long time to acclaim a victory as significant as that this week and the team which Wessels moulded will rightly be lauded around the nation for days and weeks to come.

Wessels now believes that defeat in the first Test back, against West Indies two years ago, had beneficial affects. "We should have won that game but I believe it toughened us up," he said. "Our team is very young in international terms and tenacity is very important in getting us through."

It was that tenacity which enabled South Africa to win this week's Test. They are not, man for man, as good as Australia, nor even as England, but if their attitude survives, they need not be beaten by either side in the coming months.

Dexter pays high price for poor putting

BY JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

TED Dexter departed the scene but not before he had given a knot of spectators a moment of real pleasure in the third round of the President's Putter at Rye. This was what they had braved rain squalls and the cold to see — Dexter in full flood; Lord Ted playing some lordly shots; a competitor at full stretch.

Dexter was under the cosh from the turn in his match against Michael McPhee. To the green and around it, he played better golf than he had in his opening rounds. Even he was impressed by the six-iron he hit to the 12th and his five-iron to the short 14th. "That was a golf shot," he said quietly to himself as he walked off the tee of the par-three hole. But his putting, as so often, failed to match the quality of the rest of his play.

Dexter mounted a rear-guard action. As he became more intense, he talked less, walked faster, chastised himself more. He was two down as he stood on the 15th tee and it seemed that he would go three down when he quick-hooked his drive into a sand dune barely 100 yards in front of him and could only hack out. He was 220 yards from the green as he surveyed his third shot. He called for a three-wood.

That shot bored through the light wind as if fired from a gun and ended 25 feet from the flag. Then he sank the putt for the day's most improbable four, a par, and a half. He dug his ball out of a scrape on the next to fashion a win and made sure he reached the green on the 17th. McPhee, a recent Oxford captain, was far from overawed though. He matched Dexter's three on 17th and played the 18th nervelessly to win by one hole.

Dexter is a tinkerer, always fiddling with the machinery of his golf swing. He changed his putting style twice in as many holes in search of a more accurate stroke. "I'll have to change my putter," he said. "Isn't that what people do when their putting goes to pot?"

Robin Lawson beat Jeremy Caplan by 3 and 2 to reach the fifth round. Lawson's golf has improved with age. Nearly 25 years ago he was no more than a steady six handicapper, capable of losing to your correspondent with whom he shared a flat. He now plays off four handicap — and this under a much more rigorous handicap system than was in force when he was playing off six.

"I work from home" Lawson said by way of explanation for the resurgence in his game. What did he do that enabled him to practice regularly at Worplesdon? "Basically," he said with a smile, "I rattle cages."

He and Caplan have seen enough of each other lately. Last May they each went round in 73 and tied for runner-up in the R & A Spring Medal. They tied again with scores of 77 in the 18-hole play-off. Only when Lawson birdied the third extra hole was the matter settled in his favour.

Mark Benka defeated Duncan Rendall. An elegant swinger of the club, Benka comes from good golfing stock — his father, Peter, was a Walker Cup player, his mother, Pam Tredinnick, represented Britain and Ireland in the Curtis Cup. These are good blood lines to have if you want to be a golfer.

For a while it looked as though Brian Ingleby and Richard Sanders would be inseparable. Two of the best players in the field, they halved every hole from the 11th to the 16th. Ingleby took the 17th with a cast-iron three only to lose his ball from the tee on the 18th.

They went down the 19th with the light fading fast. There, Sanders, the Oxford captain, had a four. This was enough to defeat his opponent, a recent Cambridge captain who, rather bizarrely for one so young, had a motorised trolley that trundled alongside him as he walked.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Seles relinquishes Australian title

MONICA Seles has decided against a return to tournament tennis at this month's Australian Open, which she has won for the last three years. "It is extremely difficult for me to miss another grand slam event, but I won't be ready to play," Seles said yesterday in a statement issued by her agent.

Seles, 20, has been out of the game since she was stabbed by a spectator during a match in Hamburg last April. Yesterday's statement said she would continue her rehabilitation and training programme and it was still too early to say when she might return to the circuit.

☐ Petr Korda and Jana Novotna, of the Czech Republic, won $134,000 and two diamond-encrusted tennis balls after outplaying Germany in the final of the Hopman Cup in Perth yesterday. Korda brushed aside Bernd Karbacher 6-3, 6-4 after Novotna had raised her game in mid-match to beat Anke Huber 1-6, 6-4, 6-3. It was the sixth successive year that the team event had been won by a European pair.

Calcavecchia injured

GOLF: Mark Calcavecchia, the former Open champion, could be out of action for up to six months after being injured in a skiing accident. Calcavecchia suffered a torn medial ligament in his right knee while skiing in Flagstaff, Arizona; if he needs surgery it would prevent him playing for most of the season. But if no operation is required he hopes he could play in the Tucson Open later this month. He won the 1989 Open at Royal Troon in a three-way play-off against the Australians Greg Norman and Wayne Grady.

☐ Nick Price, of Zimbabwe, has been named the 1993 Player of the Year by his fellow players on the US PGA Tour. He won four events in 1993 — the Tournament Players' Championship in March, followed by the Hartford, Western and St Jude tournaments. Vijay Singh, of Fiji, was voted the Rookie of the Year.

Hammond chases prize

CYCLO-CROSS: Roger Hammond, Britain's world junior champion two years ago, is the favourite for the national open championship at Southampton tomorrow after a season in which he has been in dominant form and with two of his potential challengers, David Baker and Richard Thackray not riding. Baker, the title-winner in 1992 and runner-up last year, has a chest infection and Thackray has a broken wrist. Hammond knows the Southampton circuit well and won there as recently as last weekend. His likeliest rival will be Steve Douce, the defending champion with seven previous open titles to his credit.

Luckman leads finalists

RIFLE SHOOTING: The Fairfield Great Britain rifle team has 18 shooters in the final of the New Zealand Queen's Prize at Trentham today, with the youngest of them, Andrew Luckman, 21, a Surrey University student, leading the field for a third day. He goes into the final 900yd shoot two points ahead of Bill Tabor, of the United States. Despite torrential rain yesterday, John Carmichael, of Britain, won the 500yd event with 50.9pts, counting out Paul Kent (GB) and one of the New Zealanders to second and third places on the same score. Luckman also won the Championship Belt Series ahead of Tabor.

Men seek tour places

LACROSSE: England's 36-strong men's world championship squad meets Vermont College from the United States at Didsbury tomorrow and at Cheadle on Sunday week before a squad of around 23 is selected for the England tour of the United States at Easter. Mick Moore, the England manager, considers that touring squad will be similar the one chosen for the world championships in July. His most difficult immediate problem is choosing two goalkeepers from five contenders — Alex Rastelli, of Hillcroft, Simon Savage, of Kenton, John Curphey, of Poynton, Richard Smith, of Heaton Mersey, and Shane Crawford, of Cheadle.

Bristol visit after on-off debate

Bath prepare for familiar rivals with extra intent

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

AFTER the on-off debate conducted between Bath and Bristol over the last 48 hours, there will be more than the usual edge between these longstanding rivals when they meet at the Recreation Ground today. Bath, leaders in the Courage Clubs Championship, had made alternative arrangements for several players before they discovered that their first division match, postponed on Thursday, was to be played.

Their team will surely feel that undue pressure has been brought to bear on club officials and may react accordingly. Bristol, in all their public utterances, have urged the playing of the game despite the condition in which the Recreation Ground was left after Bath's last game there, but whether they can claim their first away win against Bath since 1981 must be in doubt.

Pitch inspections were the order of the day after so much bad weather, but, at Sudbury, the new year has brought good tidings for Mike White: he has reclaimed the No 7 shirt in Wasps's team to play Gloucester and yesterday was included in the England A training squad that will meet at the Stoop memorial ground next weekend to prepare for the game against Italy on February 5.

White, 27, is one of nature's workhorses, apparently doomed to be second-choice, as he was for many years behind David Pegler, yet visitors to Sudbury for the first time consistently pick him out as a player to watch. He also keeps coming back for more: this season, Wasps have tried two youngsters at open side, Lawrence Dallaglio and Chris Wilkins, yet here is White entering his tenth season with the club he joined after completing his schooldays in Dorset.

Last Monday, he played for London in the deciding divisional championship match and Graham Dawe, captaining the victorious South-West, named him as the player who had done as much as anyone to stop the visiting backs displaying their wares. John Elliott, the England selector, and Peter Rossborough, the A team coach, evidently agreed since White has not appeared in any previous A squad.

Four of his club colleagues join him, including Dean Ryan, who is one of four senior internationals in the party of 30. That quartet also includes David Pears, who has not played senior rugby this season after damaging a knee during Harlequins' August visit to Ireland. However, Harlequins are optimistic that Pears will be training seriously before January is out.

Wasps hope to contain Gloucester's surge away from the bottom of the first division, in which Tim Smith reaches the notable landmark of 300 games. Smith, 31, has been a full back and, occasionally, wing for a decade and, appropriately for a scaffolder, has built a notable collection of points: 23 today would see him to 2,500 but would also mean that Wasps, third in the table, had fallen down on the job.

The Irish selectors will keep an eye on the display of Rob Saunders for London Irish against Harlequins: Saunders is one of three scrum halves under consideration for a place among the replacements against France next weekend, along with Niall Hogan, of Terenure College, and Alain Rolland, of Blackrock College, who is the favourite to get the vacancy.

If Saunders is not required, Bristol will be relieved: they are due to play the Irish next weekend and if the Exiles, who already contribute Simon Geoghegan and Gary Halpin to Ireland, surrender a third in Saunders they can apply for a league postponement. Bristol have had enough of debates over postponments this weekend.

Harlequins field Will Carling, refreshed after his Christmas break, but are without Brian Moore, since the England hooker is on a skiing holiday. Northampton, who lost their league battle with Leicester by an injury-time point last season, go to Welford Road with Martin Bayfield and Neil Edwards in the second row.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bath	9	8	0	1	232	96	16
Leicester	9	7	0	2	171	105	14
Wasps	8	5	1	2	183	141	11
Harlequins	9	4	0	5	159	125	8
Northampton	9	4	0	5	155	153	8
Oxted	9	4	0	5	153	182	8
Bristol	9	4	0	5	140	147	8
Gloucester	9	3	2	4	128	158	8
L Irish	8	3	0	5	87	143	6
Newcastle G	9	0	1	8	81	249	1

ENGLAND A SQUAD: Backs: P Hull (Bristol), D Pears (Harlequins), A Adebayo (Bath), P Holford (Gloucester), D O'Leary (Harlequins), H Thomas-ycroft (Northampton), N Beal (Northampton), D Hopley (Wasps), S Potter (Leicester), M Catt (Bath), P Challinor (Harlequins), P Grayson (Northampton), M Dawson (Northampton), A Kardooni (Leicester). Forwards: C Clark (Bath), M Hynes (Orrell), J Mallett (Bath), A Mullins (Harlequins), K Dunn (Wasps), J Olver (Northampton), A Blackmore (Gosforth), D Sims (Gloucester), A Snow (Harlequins), R West (Gloucester), M Greenwood (Wasps), R Jenkins (London Irish), S Ojomoh (Bath), M White (Wasps), D Ryan (Wasps), C Sheasby (Harlequins).



Smith, of Gloucester, reaches one landmark with another in sight

Evans seeks compensation

DENIS Evans, who was dismissed as secretary of the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) in October for "grave misconduct", is to seek compensation for the loss of his £48,000-a-year post (David Hands writes).

He is to make a claim of unfair dismissal to an industrial tribunal, a claim the WRU said yesterday it would contest "vigorously".

The union has confirmed Wales will play eight consecutive away internationals this year, beginning with the five nations' championship match with England on March 19 and ending with a Rugby World Cup qualifier in Romania on September 17.

In between will come further qualifying games against Portugal and Spain in May and tour matches against Canada, Fiji, Tonga, and Western Samoa, all in June. There is a further World Cup match against Italy in October before the South Africans arrive for seven games in Wales, four in Scotland and two in Ireland.

SOUTH AFRICAN TOUR ITINERARY: October: 22 v Cardiff, 26 v Wales A (Newport), 29 v Llanelli. November: 2 v Neath, 5 v Swansea; 9 v Scottish selection. 12 v Scottish selection; 15 v Scottish selection, 19 v Scotland (Murrayfield); 22 v Pontypridd; 26 v Wales (Cardiff), 29 v Irish selection. December: 3 v Barbarians (Lansdowne Road)

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CLUBS' CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-finals: Pool A: Benetton Treviso (It) 93 Guildford Kings 71 (Brown 18); Bayer Leverkusen (Ger) 73 Mechelen (Bel) 86, Olympiakos (Gr) 59 Limoges (Fr) 67, Pool B: Virtus Bologna 72 Panathinaikos Athens 85; Efes Pilsen Istanbul 76 Joventut Badalona (Sp) 74 (OT); Cibona Zagreb (Cro) 83 Caniu (It) 77

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Portland 116, Charlotte 110; New York 92, Milwaukee 85; Golden State 102 San Antonio 98.

BOWLS

YETTON TROPHY (women's inter-club championship): Third round: Cumbria 86 S Tyneside 68; Sunderland 80 Darlington 80; Lincoln 63 Boston 78; S Forest 77 Barwell 79; City of Ely 33 Cambridge Chesterton 77; Rushden 73 Wellingborough 96, Roundwood 70 County Arts 72; Ipswich 86 Marina 59; Bishop's Stortford 49 Essex County 111; Falcon 91 Clacton 63; Havery 76 Barking 55; Mansfield 70 Picketts Lock 40, Cherwell 75 River Ain 83; Deeborough 74 Stevenage 80; Rugby 88 Avon Valley 77; Bentham 98 Pendlewell 81; King George Field 94 Cambridge Pk 59; Sutton 54 Croydon 91; Wey Valley 113 Rushmore 48; Egham 95 Camberley 70; Oyster 87 Prince Arthur 86 (after extra end); Angel Tonbridge 94 Dartford Stone Lodge 81; Preston 83 Egerton Park 69; Adur 71 Wealden 83; Banister Pk 88 Arun 66; Dolphin 101 Bridport and W Dorset 71; Exonia 81 Torbay 66; W Cornwall 91 Nawgaay 64.

CRICKET

COLOMBO: First under-19 Test match (final day): England Under-19 287 and 145 (M Vaughan 47); Sri Lanka Under-19 351-9 dec and 16-0. Match drawn.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Igls	0	40	fair	varied	closed	fair	9	4/1
(Everything closed by strong Föhn winds)								
Kitzbühel	30	100	good	varied	slush	fine	9	5/1
(Spring skiing conditions with Föhn weather)								
Mayrhofen	0	50	fair	varied	closed	Föhn	6	2/1
(No skiing due to high winds closing all lifts)								
Söll	25	70	fair	varied	worn	fair	4	4/1
(Despite warm, windy weather, upper slopes skiing well)								
St Anton	50	200	fair	varied	worn	Föhn	6	4/1
(Very strong Föhn wind limiting skiing)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	130	220	good	varied	good	snow	-2	7/1
(Blizzard conditions on higher slopes but good snow)								
Avoriaz	145	185	good	varied	good	fair	-3	7/1
(Excellent skiing in most areas; no queues)								
Flaine	100	300	good	crust	good	snow	2	7/1
(High winds limiting skiing to lower runs)								
La Plagne	165	320	good	heavy	good	snow	0	7/1
(Perfect conditions on piste)								
Megève	60	140	good	heavy	slushy	snow	4	7/1
(Pistes strewn with pine cones after high winds)								
S Chevalier	90	250	good	heavy	good	snow	0	7/1
(All higher pistes closed by avalanche danger)								
Tignes	155	335	good	varied	good	snow	-5	7/1
(All high lifts closed by wind)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	70	160	good	powder	good	snow	0	7/1
(Much of the resort closed by wind and snowfall)								
Mürren	20	90	fair	varied	good	snow	0	7/1
(Föhn winds died down at lunchtime, followed by snow)								
Verbier	45	255	good	powder	good	snow	2	7/1
(Very limited skiing due to wind)								
Wengen	10	20	fair	heavy	slush	Föhn	6	2/1
(All lifts closed by Föhn wind)								
Zermatt	90	250	good	powder	good	snow	-3	7/1
(Very little open due to wind and very heavy snowfalls)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

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SHEFFIELD SHIELD

(first day of four): Hobart: New South Wales 288-7 (S Waugh 129 not out, M Bevan 71; C Miller 5-81) v Tasmania. Adelaide: Western Australia 22-0 v South Australia.

CYCLING

ANTWERP: Six-day race (after third leg): 1, E de Wilde (Bel) and Jens Veggerby (Den) 213pts, 2, A Bell and P Bincoletto (It) 204; 3, B Rist and K Betschart (Switz) 106; 4, P Peters (Hol) and C Wolf (Ger) 169, at 2 laps; 5, A Doyle (GB) and D Woods (Aus) 107, 2.

DARTS

FRIMLEY GREEN, Surrey: Embassy world professional championships: Quarter-finals: J Part (Can) bt S McCallum (Eng) 4-0; R Sharp (Scot) bt T Rusal (Den) 4-1

FOOTBALL

SPANISH CUP: Third round, first legs: Badajoz 1 Real Zaragoza 0; Real Betis 3 Merida 1; Tenerife 3 Valencia 1.

GOLF

RYE: President's Putter: Second round: P M Holmes (Oxford, St Edmund Hall) bt S G Morris (Oxford, St Anne's) 3 and 2; I J M Smith (Cambridge, Girton) bt W J Bathache (Oxford, Merton) 6 and 5; A P Stracey (Cambridge, Fitzwilliam) bt M M Williamson (Cambridge, Fitzwilliam) 2 and 1; A J Munley (Cambridge, St Catherine's) bt P F Gardiner-Hill (Oxford, Christ Church) 3 and 2; C E Travers (Cambridge, Jesus) bt R F Palmer (Cambridge, St John's) 1 hole; J A Skelton (Cambridge, Trinity) bt B H G Chapman (Cambridge, Clare) 3 and 2; C J Waight (Cambridge, Jesus) bt T M Fitzsimmons (Oxford, Queen's) 4 and 3; D J Warden (Cambridge, Fitzwilliam) bt C C Ellson (Cambridge, Homerton) 3 and 2

M C Grint (Oxford, Brasenose) 4 and 3; C J Dale (Cambridge, Trinity Hall) bt J M Peel (Oxford, Worcester) 3 and 2; R P Lawson (Oxford, Keble) bt P J R Webb (Cambridge, Trinity Hall) 2 and 1; J B Wild (Oxford, St John's) bt K H A Irwin (Cambridge, Emmanuel) 6 and 5; A C Hodson (Oxford, St Peter's) bt W H Barclay (Cambridge, St John's) 1 hole; J J N Caplen (Cambridge, Magdalene) bt A G Edmond (Cambridge, Trinity) 2 and 1; P J Scarfield (Oxford, St Catherine's) bt N A Theyer (Cambridge, Peterhouse) 1 hole; K M Boden (Cambridge, Pembroke) bt W P M Warne (Oxford, Hertford) at 20th.

Third round: Smith bt Holmes 2 and 1, Stracey bt Munley 2 and 1; Skelton bt Travers 1 hole; Waight bt Warden 1 hole, Grint bt D S Corrie (Oxford, Lincoln) 4 and 3; A R F Mangeot (Oxford, Trinity) bt R J Bisson (Oxford, Christ Church) 3 and 2; S R Seman (Oxford, Merton) bt M Yates (Oxford, St Catherine's) 4 and 3; J L Hempel (Oxford, St Anne's) bt C R Haines (Cambridge, Trinity) 5 and 4; M S P Banks (Oxford, Lady Margaret Hall) bt J E Behrend (Oxford, Corpus Christi) 6 and 5; D L Rendell (Oxford, Oriel) bt P J R Bathurst (Cambridge, Magdalene) 1 hole.

R F H Peach (Oxford, Magdalen) bt W H P Jackson (Oxford, St Peter's) 3 and 2; R O Kelly (Cambridge, Corpus Christi) bt R D H Hall (Cambridge, Magdalene) at 19th; M W M R MacPhee (Oxford, Oriel) bt E R Dexter (Cambridge, Jesus) 2 holes; S D Ellis (Oxford, Trinity) bt T G Elridge (Oxford, St Catherine's) 4 and 3; B S E Ingleby (Cambridge, Fitzwilliam) bt T E Tew (Oxford, Wolfson) 3 and 2; R A Sanders (Oxford, Merton) bt M G Boer (Cambridge, Fitzwilliam) 2 and 1; J R E Kent (Oxford, Brasenose) bt Boden 4 and 3; J B L Webster (Cambridge, Caius) bt C L A Edginton (Oxford, Pembroke) 6 and 5; A D Chilvers (Oxford, St Benet's Hall) bt J M Cowman (Oxford, St Catherine's) at 19th; R W Devlin (Oxford, Wadham) bt P H Weller (Cambridge, St John's) 3 and 2; N B Peplow (Cambridge, Jesus) bt I M Henderson (Oxford, Pembroke) 4 and 3.

D C Taylor (Cambridge, Selwyn) bt A D Swanston (Cambridge, Pembroke) 3 and 2; D I Wilson (Cambridge, Magdalene) bt J S Young (Cambridge, Churchill) 3 and 1; P J Hill (Oxford, Exeter) bt D E F Simons (Cambridge, Corpus Christi) 2 and 1; P Dawson (Cambridge, Corpus Christi) bt J T L Watson (Cambridge, Trinity Hall) 6 and 4; Dale bt T C W Godwin (Cambridge, Pembroke) 5 and 3; Lawson bt Wild 3 and 2; Caplan bt Hodson 1 hole; R W Evans (Cambridge, Wolfson) bt Scarfield 3 and 1; A W J Holmes (Cambridge, St John's) bt J H Palmer (Cambridge, St John's) 3 and 2; S A Sharpe (Cambridge, Fitzwilliam) bt J E Philpott (Oxford, Christ Church) 4 and 3; N J Burke (Oxford, Lady Margaret Hall) bt M E Kitchin (Oxford, Worcester) 5 and 4.

Fourth round: Smith bt Stracey at 20th; Waight bt Skelton 1 hole; Mangeot bt Grint 5 and 4; Seman bt Hempel 1 hole; Banks bt Rendall 1 hole, Kelly bt Peach at 20th; Ellis bt MacPhee 1 hole; Sanders bt Ingleby at 19th; Webster bt Kent at 19th; Devlin bt Chilvers 1 hole; Peplow bt Taylor 5 and 4; Hill bt Wilson 1 hole; Dale bt Dawson 2 and 1; Lawson bt Caplan 3 and 2; Holmes bt Evans 2 and 1; Sharpe bt Burke 3 and 2.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 5 Winnipeg 4; St Louis 2 Hartford 1; Toronto 6 Ottawa 3; Anaheim 6 Chicago 2; Dallas 8 Philadelphia 0; Detroit 10 San Jose 3

NORDIC SKIING

RST IM WINKL, Germany: Men: World Cup combined event: 1, K Ogawara and T Kono (Japan), 2, A Levandi and A Markvardt (Est); 3, T Sarparanta and J Manfille (Fin). World Cup positions (after six events): 1, Norway 1,602pts; 2, Japan 1,454; 3, Finland 847, 4, Germany 839

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Peal Hunt British under-24 championship: Second round: P Le Marchand bt J Boddington 15-11, 10-15, 15-10; H Foster bt R Lawson 15-11, 15-8, M Windows bt H Green 15-3, 15-4. Third round: A Robinson bt C Darby 15-5, 15-12, 16-14; Le Marchand bt R Tew 15-10, 8-15, 15-6, 15-10; L Darby bt J Acheson-Gray 15-3, 15-0, 15-4; G Barker bt J Latham 15-8, 15-4, 15-9. Under-21 championship: Quarter-finals: M Windows bt M Hubbard 15-11, 15-1; H Foster bt A Hodgson 15-11, 15-4

SHOOTING

TRENTHAM, New Zealand: Queen's Prize: Second day aggregate: 1, A Luckman (GB) 394 46pts; 2, W Tabor (US) 393.44; 3, D Crow (NZ) 390.30. Nelson Match (500 yds): 1, T Oliver (NZ) 50.9; 2, M Dunia (US) 50.9, 3, P Kent (GB) 50.8. Tetara Lodge Match (600 yds): 1, D Coleman (GB) 50.7; 2, J Lewis (GB) 50.7, 3, P Gall (Aus) 50 6; 4, A Tucker (GB) 50 6. Southland Match (900 yds): 1, Luckman 50.9; 2, D Richards (GB) 50 8; 3, R George (NZ) 50.6. Hawkes Bay Match (900 yds): 1, Crow 50.6; 2, Coleman 50 6; 3, Dunia 50.5

SWIMMING

PEKING: World Cup short-course meeting: Winners: Women: 100m freestyle: Le Jingyi (China) 53.44sec, 50m breaststroke: Dai Guohong (China) 32.09, 400m individual medley: Dai Guohong (China) 4min 36.73sec, 100m backstroke: He Cihong (China) 59.32sec, 200m butterfly: Lu Limin (China) 2mn 07.78sec, 400m freestyle: D Hase (Ger) 4:07.75, 200m breaststroke: Dai Guohong (China) 2:26.39, 100m individual medley: Lu Bin (China) 1:02.24

GEORGE, South Africa: Men's tournament: Leading second-round scores (SA unless stated): 131: E Els 66, 65. 133: A Johnstone (Zim) 65, 68; I Leggatt (Can) 63, 70. 134: B Fourches 68, 66. 135: R Fletcher 67, 68, D Frost 68, 67. 136: W Westner 70, 66. 137: F Dulm Jr (US) 69, 68.

CARLSBAD, California: Men's tournament: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated): US PGA Tour: 68: V Singh (Fiji), N Henke, F Couples, B Ogle (Aus). 70: G Waite (NZ), S Simpson, G Norman (Aus), P Mickelson. 71: J Haas, J Inman, F Allem (SA), B Crenshaw, L Janzen, D Love III. 72: J Maggert, W Meyler, R Medlate, H Twitty, Senior PGA Tour: 67: D Stockton. 70: R Charles 71: D Douglass, R Murphy, G Archer, L Trevino, J Colbert 72: A Geiberger. 73: J Nicklaus, S Hobday (SA), C C Rodriguez (P Rico), T Wargo, R Floyd, J Albus.

TENNIS

HONOLULU: Men's tournament: First round: W Ferreira (SA) bt M Zoecke (Ger) 4-6, 7-6, 6-1. Second round: J Arias (US) bt M Joyce (US) 6-1, 6-2; R Weiss (US) bt J-P Fleurian (Fr) 2-6, 6-3, 7-6; R Furlan (It) bt C Caratti (It) 6-3, 7-6; R Reneberg (US) bt D Flach (US) 6-3, 6-3, Ferreira bt J Grabb (US) 6-7, 6-2, 7-6, B Gilbert (US) bt P Kuehnen (Ger) 6-4, 6-3; J Stark (US) bt A Flinneberg (Ger) 6-4, 6-4, P McEnroe (US) bt J Palmer (US) 4-6, 6-4, 6-2.

PERTH: Hopman Cup (mixed tournament). Finals: Czech Republic bt Germany 2-1 (Czech names first): J Novotna bt A Huber 1-6, 6-4, 6-3; P Korda bt B Karbacher 6-3, 6-4; Novotna and Korda lost to Huber and Karbacher 3-8 (one pro set).

ADELAIDE: Australian men's hard-court championships: Second round: A Volkov (Russ) bt C Bergstrom (Swe) 6-3, 3-6, 6-4. Quarter-finals: P Rafter (Aus) bt G Stafford (SA) 3-6, 6-3, 7-6; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt D Rikl (Cz) 5-7, 6-3, 7-5.

BRISBANE: Australian women's hard-court championships: Quarter-finals: Wang Shi-ting (Taiwan) bt N Medvedeva (Ukr) 6-1, 3-6, 6-2; F Labat (Arg) bt M Jaggard-Lai (Aus) 7-6, 6-4; M Maleeva (Bul) bt R McQuillan (Aus) 6-2, 7-5; L Davenport (US) bt S Ritmer (Ger) 6-4, 6-0

DOHA, Qatar: Men's tournament: Quarter-finals: S Edberg (Swe) bt H Leconte (Fr) 6-4, 6-2, G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt S Pescosolido (It) 6-4, 6-4; P Haarhuis (Hol) bt A Olhovskiy (Russ) 6-4, 6-2; G Schaller (Austria) bt R Agenor (Hait) 7-5, 7-6

HONG KONG: Women's exhibition tournament: Final: S Graf (Ger) bt A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) 7-5, 6-7, 7-6

YACHTING

FREMANTLE, Australia: Second international blind regatta: B1 class: First race: 1, N Zealand, 2, United Kingdom; 3, Sweden; 4, S Africa, 5, Victoria; 6, W Australia; 7, Ireland; 8, United States. Second race: 1, N Zealand; 2, United Kingdom; 3, W Australia; 4, S Africa, 5, Sweden, 6, Victoria; 7, Ireland; 8, United States. Overall: 1, New Zealand 0pts; 2, United Kingdom 6; 3, South Africa 16; 4, Sweden 18.7.

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SPORT

SATURDAY JANUARY 8 1994

Walker's move may spark FA enquiry

BY KEITH PIKE

EVERTON are likely to have to face a Football Association commission over allegations that they persuaded Mike Walker to break his contract as manager of Norwich City. Walker resigned from his position at Carrow Road yesterday morning, and a formal announcement of his appointment at Goodison Park was due to be made last night.

John Deehan, Walker's assistant at Norwich for 18 months, has been placed in temporary charge, and will select the team for the FA Cup third-round tie against Wycombe Wanderers at Adams Park today. Walker, who is thought to have agreed a three-and-a-half year contract that trebles his basic wage to £150,000 a year, should oversee Everton against Bolton Wanderers at Burnden Park.

Walker's decision to leave Norwich with six months of a one-year contract left to run



Walker, after leaving Carrow Road yesterday

angered the club and dismayed supporters. One player, Ruel Fox, said he would be considering his own future.

Mike Foster, a spokesman for the FA Premier League, said last night: "We have received an official complaint from Norwich, alleging that Everton have broken rule G (vi) that prohibits a club from inducing or attempting to induce an employee of another club to break his contract.

"That complaint will be referred to a Premier League board meeting, which will take place next Tuesday, and assuming that the board accepts there is a case to answer, we would then ask the FA to appoint a commission of inquiry to investigate the matter.

"We have advised Everton that the complaint has been received, and Norwich have said that evidence to support their complaint will follow at the earliest opportunity."

Everton will contest the claim. "We are quite happy to answer any charges that are made against us," Jim Greenwood, their chief executive, said. The FA's powers of punishment are virtually unlimited, but should Everton be found guilty of making an illegal approach they would probably be fined and ordered to pay compensation.

Everton first made an official approach to Norwich for permission to speak to Walker on Tuesday, but were rebuffed by Robert Chase, the Norwich chairman. They are thought likely to quote in their defence a statement attributed to Chase on December 15, in which he said the club would not stand in Walker's way if he was approached by a bigger club. Walker had previously expressed his disapointment at Norwich's failure to offer him a new, improved contract.

Steve Coppell, chief executive of the League Managers' Association, gave qualified support to Walker. "The advice that I would have to give any manager is to honour his contract," Coppell said, "but anybody who knows the circumstances of Mike's situation would perhaps understand what he has done."

Having resigned yesterday morning, Walker sent a fax to Goodison Park informing them of his decision. "I also wish to inform you that I would like the opportunity of an interview for the vacant managerial position at Everton Football Club," Walker said.

Dr David Marsh, the Everton chairman, said: "When Mike resigned ... we were delighted and advised Norwich of our intentions. Norwich have criticised the way we have handled this but we have no wish to respond."

Chase yesterday paid tribute to Walker's "major contribution" to Norwich's success in the past 18 months — they finished third in the Premier League last season, their highest placing, and enjoyed a successful run in the Uefa Cup on their debut in European competition.

"I am surprised Mike has walked away," Chase said. "I have got to know him very well over the last few months and it surprises me anyone would walk away from a football club a day before an important game. But these things happen in football and we have to learn to live with it."

Deehan admitted things had been "getting more difficult each day" as speculation over Walker's future continued. "It's a sad situation because we've had 18 very successful months," he said.

Morality questions, page 32
FA Cup preview, page 32

Bath overruled on fitness of pitch

BY DAVID HANDS

THE foul weather which has hit sports fixtures up and down the country over the last week has also soured relationships between those long-standing rugby union rivals, Bath and Bristol. On Thursday today's first-division league fixture was off, then it was reconsidered and last night a Rugby Football Union (RFU) statement confirmed it was on once more.

The fixture had been in doubt since December 30, when Bath played Cardiff and turned the pitch into a quagmire; since then the neighbouring River Avon has risen and constant rain has prevented Bath's ground staff repairing the damage. Bath reversed Thursday's decision to postpone the game only after heavy pressure from Bristol who sent four officials to inspect the playing surface with Ed Morrison, the international referee, acting an an independent arbiter.

Morrison reported to the RFU competitions sub-committee that yesterday the ground was playable and Bristol's representations were upheld by the RFU, who clearly believed Bath had acted hastily at a time when the union has urged all clubs to leave postponement decisions as late as possible, so as to avoid a massive fixture backlog later in an already overcrowded season.

"We were forced into a corner", John Quin, the Bath secretary, said. "We have complied with the RFU instruction and will attempt to play the game."

Only one of today's 30 FA Cup ties has been postponed, although several are subject to pitch inspections. The Football Association has urged home clubs to arrange for early decisions. Today's race meeting at Sandown Park has been called off and there will be an early morning inspection at Haydock Park to establish whether racing is possible.

Familiar rivals, page 35



MARC ASPLAND

Torvill and Dean casting long shadows over their rivals as the British ice dance championship got under way in Sheffield yesterday

Torvill and Dean again show they are class apart

16

BY JOHN HENNESSY

JAYNE Torvill and Christopher Dean easily overcame the first obstacle in their return to competitive skating yesterday. They won the compulsory dances of the British championship, sponsored by Peoples Phone, at Sheffield, by a street.

This was too predictable for the event to carry any competitive bite. It was the manner of their performance, and the marks they seduced from the nine judges, which occupied universal attention.

Here there was some disappointment. Courtney Jones, once known as the hanging judge because of the severity of his pronouncements, surrendered almost completely with 5.9 for both the "Starlight Waltz", his own creation, and the "Blues". A perfect mark of 6.0 for the compulsories is a rare achievement and has fallen only a few times, even to Torvill and Dean.

We might, too, explain away the three marks of 5.6 for the waltz because Torvill and Dean were first to skate and judges in this sport are notoriously ungenerous to the early skaters, no matter how exalted their pedigree.

Bobby Thompson, Torvill and Dean's coach, said: "It was a consummate performance, skated with a technical elegance I have never before seen."

Certainly there was a lilt and lean on deep edges that put them on a different plane. Their blues also had a slinky sensuousness that best comes to people who have had experience of mature adulthood. Youth in this discipline is a distinct disadvantage.

This was particularly so in the blues, where the highlight is a chocthaw, an ice dance step from left foot inside to back outside. Their unison was such throughout both dances that their free legs might have been glued together, were that not a slight handicap in the performance of ice skating.

RESULTS: Compulsory dances: 1, J Torvill and C Dean (Nottingham) 0.4pts; 2, M Humphreys and C Lanning (Slough) 0.8; 3, M Fitzgerald and V Kyte (Slough) 1.2; 4, M Jenkie and P Askew (Nottingham) 1.6; 5, L Burton and D Lenard (Slough) 2.0; 6, C Wileman and A Place (Nottingham) 2.4; equal 7 J Keeble and L Salpadoru (Lee Valley); L Dunn and J Dunn (Blackburn) 3.0; 9, V Foxley and N Chilcott (Altrincham/Deeside) 3.8; 10, L Chalmeigian and D Phillips (Slough) 4.0.

Portrait, page 34

Young dance partners left to try for second-class honours



Simon Barnes on how T and D chose to swap artistic freedom for the challenge of competition

THIS is not a good time to be Marika Humphreys, aged 17 of Slough. Nor is it any better to be Justin Lanning, aged 20, and also from Slough. They are rather in the position of the school champions turning up to a French prose writing competition and discovering that Marcel Proust was taking part.

You have not heard of Marika and Justin. They are charming-looking, fresh-faced young people, but also people of ambition and achievement. They are, as it happens, the British ice dance champions. The chances of this still being true at tea-time today are remote.

For they have, of course, come up against the nearest thing this strange and not untacky art-form/sport-form has approached to M Proust: Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, who have returned to competitive ice dancing, very much *à la recherche du temps perdu*.

That involves, as one of those regrettable necessities, the slaying of the sweet young pair from Slough at this, the Peoples Phone British ice dance championship. What do you think of that, Justin? "Our first reaction was disappointment," Lanning said with commendable frankness.

Of course, he went on to say all the right things about it being good for British skating and great experience for them. "We're going to do all we can to stop them taking the title fom us," and all that.

But unless they make a sudden rule change to allow opponents to tackle, it seemed, from the moment the first compulsory dance was danced, that there were two events taking place at Sheffield — a tough competition for second place, and a serious solo effort from T and D, out on their own in search of lost *time and past perfection*.

The compulsory dances are a strange, near surreal experience. We began with the Starlight Waltz, endlessly reiterated music, while a couple from Altrincham and Basingstoke and Streatham glide and slide about the white expanse of Sheffield Arena.

An arena with a few hundred people in it, a spooky barn of a place, while the prides of Slough, Altrincham etcetera waltzed their guts out for 3.8s and 4.2s. A grisly business, rather like doing your A levels in a refrigerator. Admire the toughness of these people: this is a sport, and that means by it is by definition heart-breaking.

A Levels are all very well if you are 17. But one of the great compensations of onrushing middle age is that, no matter how bad life gets, one will not have to take A levels again.

So here come Torvill and Dean, aged 36 and 35 and very much *nel mezzo del cammin*: seizing their chance once more to do their A levels — to skate the Starlight Waltz, while judges look at the edges and deduct marks for imperceptible imprecisions. Why bother?

T and D regularly peform ice shows to houses packed to the rafter with uncriticial admirers. They have had ten years of artistic freedom. They have chosen to swap the fruits of a lifetime's work for the fret and grief of the long and cold examination room of Sheffield.

The point is that T and D were competitiors before they were artists. The urge to beat people has resurfaced. They want to taste again the terror of competition, the endless pain of preparation, the short, eternal agonies before the marks appear. There is no doubt about it — that man who in 1984 wore a purple blouse and rolled about on the ice in agonies of love, is as much eaten up with competitiveness as anyone who ever donned shin pads.

Torvill and Dean have swopped freedom for restriction. They have exchanged artistic control to be cabined, cribbed and confined by rules.

Ice dancing has suffered from the eternal is-it-sport-is-art dilemma. Torvill and Dean were barrier-busters. They pushed back the frontiers of ice dancing and transformed it. And in doing so, they pushed to something perilously close to nonsense. T and D dying on the ice is one thing, but most people can't do it without looking silly.

In fact, ice dance was getting alarmingly similar to the Monty Python Hospital for Overacting. So they changed the rules, went back to basics, back to dance — no more kneeling, no more lying down, no more deaths and a complete ban on suicide pacts, particularly those that involve flinging yourself into the crater of a volcano.

Instead of artisitic imagination, T and D must show technical virtuosity. No longer will the art conceal the art; artfulness and virtuosity must be flaunted. The challenge of a million restriction are different from those of a limitless canvas. Torvill and Dean have sought re-inspiration from the Draconian rules of competitive ice dancing. That, and the quest, not for artistic achievement, but for sporting victory.

Kerrigan forced out

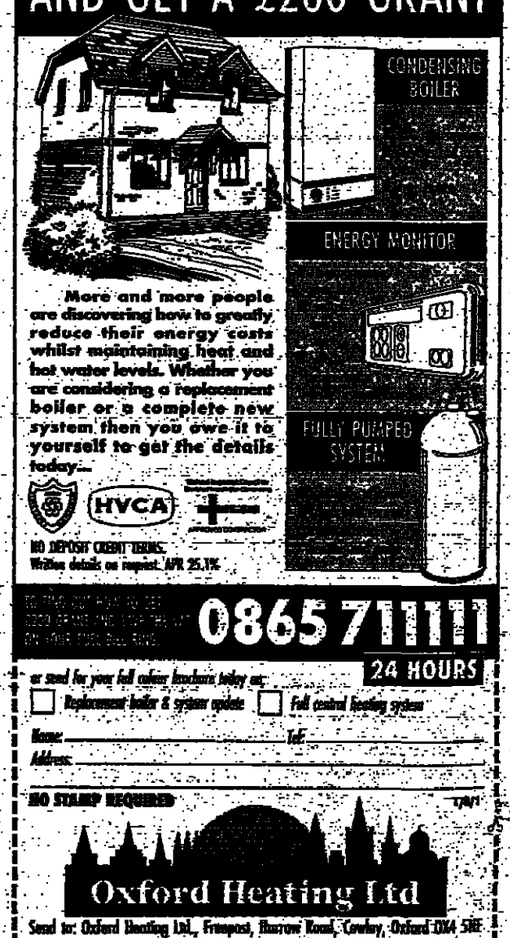
NANCY Kerrigan has pulled out of the United States skating championships in Detroit because of injuries caused to her right leg when she was attacked by an unknown assailant wielding a metal bar. But American Olympic officials said Kerrigan could still be considered for the team for the Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer next month if her injuries were not too serious.

Kerrigan, the defending national champion, was leaving a practice session on Thursday when the attack took place. Doctors said no bones were broken but severe bruising made it unwise for Kerrigan to continue in the competition.

The former Olympic gold medal-winner and world champion Brian Boitano, a professional for five years, gained a place at Lillehammer by finishing second in the men's competition behind Scott Davis.

Terror attack, page 10

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FRANCES BISSELL

From Seville with zest

Cooking with oranges, page 5



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Clothed in glory

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The year of brighter brides

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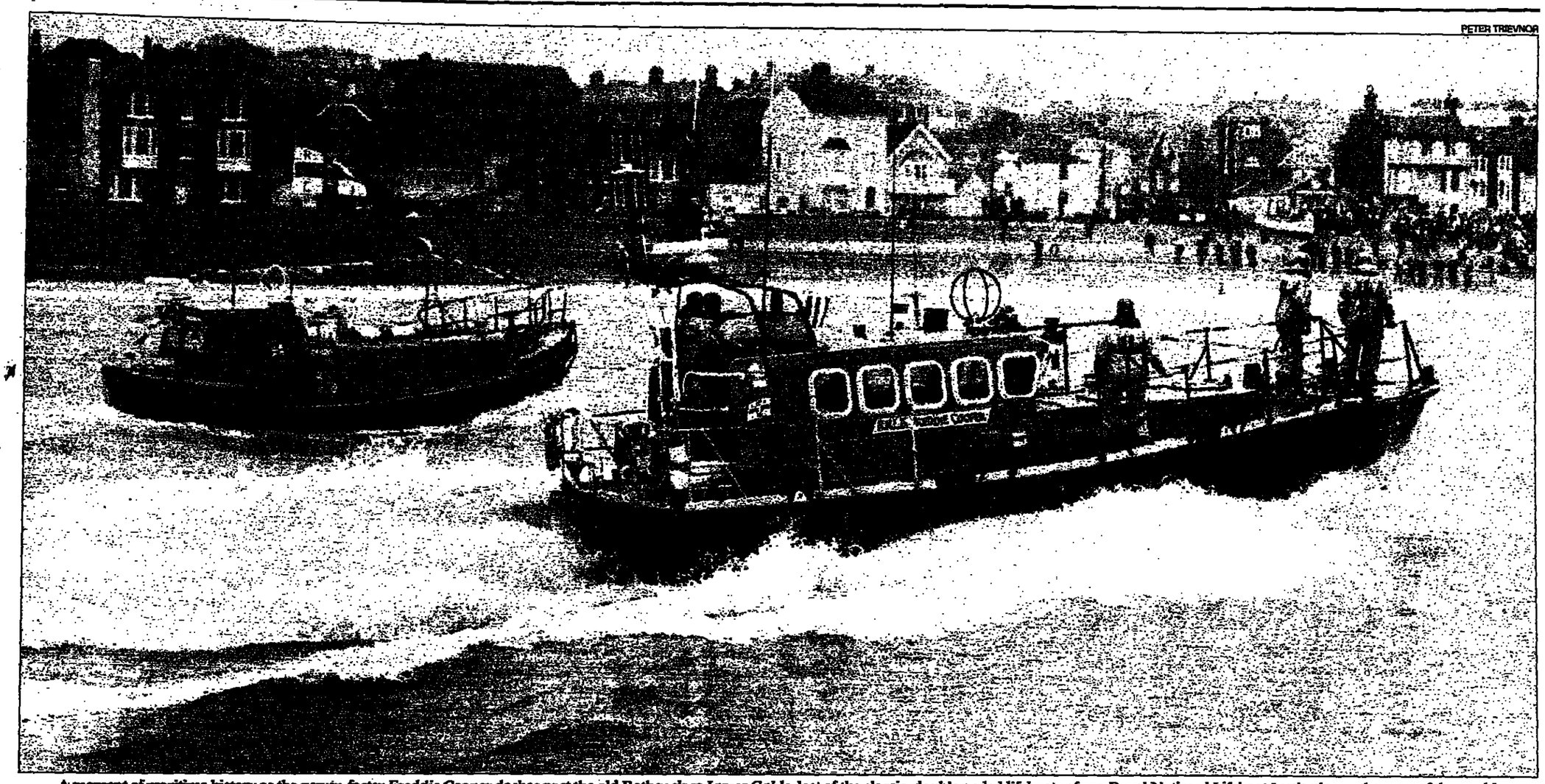
TAKI'S VICES AND VIRTUES

Page 10

WEEKEND

3

THE TIMES SATURDAY JANUARY 8 1994



A moment of maritime history as the newer, faster *Freddie Cooper* dashes past the old Rother class *James Cable*, last of the classic, double-ended lifeboats of our Royal National Lifeboat Institution — the envy of the world

For those in peril



Libby Purves salutes the heroism of our lifeboat crews, marked at the RNLI's Boat Show stand

We shall all be there this weekend, yachtsmen and small-boat buffs, milling around in the shiny dreamworld of Earl's Court and inhaling the smells of new rope and teak oil. Some will be hovering deliciously on the verge of buying a first boat; others proudly trading up from outboard to speedboat, or cramped sailing butterdish to deep-keeled ocean-going yacht. We shall buy our boats little treats: shiny snapshackles, fender-socks, and *Breton plotters and electronic marvels* in a few square inches of grey plastic. It will be warm in the big halls, dry and solid underfoot and about as far as you can get from salt water. Even while actually buying lifejackets, we shall not believe that anything dreadful could ever happen.

This year, however, I shall be soberer, and stop longer than usual in front of the *modest stall* of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. For the real sea, the eternally cold and *cruel path*, has *not had as* many weeks as usual to fade from *my* memory. At five-thirty on a raw *morning* at the turn of December I had the luck to share a moment of maritime history: cold, damp, rough and real. I set out as the only onsider on the last mission carried out in British waters by a classic double-ended lifeboat.

You know the look of these lifeboats: like *children's pictures* or RNLI badges, with their handropes along the side in white festoons. They are low, sturdy, and the same shape bow and stern: they owe their lines to an 18th-century design, double-ended so that the boat could be rowed backward as well as forward *without turning* broadside to dangerous waves. Until very recently, despite engines and self-righting *and modern* electronics, most smaller and beach-launched lifeboats were of this Rother class: still visibly *kin to the* dogged, sturdy craft that earlier crews sailed and rowed and hauled up the beach with carthorses.

But since 1986, the Institution has been gradually replacing them all with something spectacularly different: fast lifeboats of the 12m Mersey class. The most ignorant eye could not fail to spot the difference: on the one hand, a stocky, low-slung, dogged wooden shape from the past, a displacement hull pushing the water aside at eight knots. On the other, something looking more like a fast modern motorboat, of tough fibre-reinforced composite, flat at the stern and high in the pointed bow, a semi-planing hull capable of scudding over the crests at 17 knots towards a rescue and rushing the survivors home. To see a Mersey glide contemptuously past a wallowing, wave-butting old Rother at double her speed is like seeing a jet pass an old prop-driven aeroplane: you may be momentarily sad, but you have to see the point. And the RNLI, which has seen its call-outs rise from 500 a year to 5,000 in recent decades with the leisure boating boom, is unsentimental. It experimented with steam as early as 1890; with motor-boats in 1904.

So station by station, the fast boats have moved in. This last day of November saw a small ceremony in Aldeburgh when Lt.-Com. Brian Miles, director of the RNLI, landed from the new lifeboat *Freddie Cooper* and placed the final piece in a symbolic jigsaw of the coastline. A silent crowd watched from the beach as the Freddie dashed past the *James Cable*, only 11 years older herself but one of the last wooden boats, and the very last double-ender. The Cable has done her bit: searched *through gales*, taken sick crewmen off ships in all weathers, towed casualties home, saved lives. This was goodbye. The sole reminder of the wooden boats will be the collecting boxes and badges which will remain unchanged, an enduring symbol of this British institution. I have a long affection for the RNLI: in a world of squabbling public inefficiency, of taxes raised and *dismantled at vast cost and* squandered on fripperies, it is an inspiration. It takes no government *money and yet prospers*: a piece of pure democracy, existing merely because the people of an island nation agree wholeheartedly that it should. The tin in the street, the *raffle, the volunteer shop*; the clause in the will, the fund-raising hops and lifeboat balls give it more *than £50 million a year. Our* lifeboat service is the envy of the world, not because any government has willed it, but because we have. And because volunteer lifeboatmen and women *still* come forward to man it.

So I wanted to be there at this *crux of its history. Before dawn the James Cable* chugged out for the last time from its temporary mooring on the River Alde, to rendezvous with the new boat. Shivering on the shingle with half the crew, I watched her manoeuvre towards us. Stiff with lifejackets, we clambered *from the dinghy into* the draughty, comfortless, half-open cuddy. An oath was heard faintly *through the darkness* as the youngest lifeboatman vanished uptide with the dinghy. "Lost the — oar!" And so the Cable carried out her final rescue, picking him up. "He'll *have a bad time on rubber duck* laying-up night," said the staff coxswain, John Marjoram. "When we lay up the inshore lifeboat, we set penalties for anyone who's been a bit silly in the year. We'll think of something he can do with an oar."

Downriver in the darkness and *the rain, the men* exchanged anecdotes of the service. "He veered the lifeboat off to avoid the ship's roll, she came broadside, went over, he was lost. Could have been anyone."

John Marjoram peered at the echo-sounder, observing that it was dead low water on the wicked Alde bar. Rough seas lifted us at the shallowest part, and we hit the bottom with a terrible grating, *sprang forward and bounced again* in the boiling brown muddy water. Streaks of foam blown from the waves marbled the *nastiness* around us: it was the kind of scene which in a yacht would make you think of lifeboats. It was a small shock to realise that I was *on* one, and *that* these cheerful *lads* in their spartan boat were the last resort for the unlucky and the foolhardy. Not *that lifeboatmen often condemn* foolhardiness. "Could happen to anyone. Your luck just runs out." Not all of them are fishermen these days: some work for BT, for the Sizewell reactor stations, or behind counters. But they all know the sea, and how your luck can run out.

Mr Marjoram gave me the wheel, and I drove the last double-ender, rolling and plunging towards Orford-Ness. Above my head a notice said "WEAR PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR". George the mechanic was in a flat tweed hat, John in a sort of Russian army *leftover, most of the others in plain* curly hair. But as we got close enough for photographs, they solemnly donned the official, orange hard-topped RNLI issue. "Prat-hats," they said resignedly. A sense of occasion came over us all: we were to meet and lead home the *new fast lifeboat*.

Then up stormed the *Freddie Cooper*, and a group of us swapped boats, climbing awkwardly from rail to rail and into another world. After the draughty, cramped standing-room of the Cable we were in a modern cabin with harnessed padded seats for each crewman. We left the old *James Cable* behind in our wash, circled triumphantly and hit *the beach neatly in place to be* towed up over the shingle to the new lifeboathouse. Everything *changes, except the sea itself.*

I went home with *A Lifeboatman's Days* by the original James Cable, who served as Aldeburgh coxswain from 1880 to the torpedo-rescues of *the First* World War. I read of his dark mornings, "blowing and snowing" in the 1890s, and thought of the *hissing, bumping bar* of a few hours back. And I read of December 7, 1899, when with a bitter *onshore wind, the maroons went* off. James Cable wrote:

"I was suffering from influenza but when I heard the *rockets fired* I got up and went. I was just having my lifebelt strapped on when my doctor came and forbade me to go . . ." The lifeboat turned over a *hundred yards from shore*, and he saw six men drowned. When a new lifeboat arrived, "I was afraid after *the accident that we should have* some trouble getting a crew: but I was wrong". A crew came forward, including his own son, and the service went on. It still does: faster, safer, but the same. Salute it.



Pretty as a picture, and just as dead

Peter Barnard says townies are killing village life

I would not go so far as to trouble the *editor of the Guinness Book of Records* but I would lay claim to living 100 feet from the smallest newsagents in Britain. It consists of a rusty former breadbin which sits on a verge in my hamlet and which, *every morning*, is filled with newspapers.

The system works, so far as it goes, but a breadbin is not a focus for the distillation of gossip, the purchasing of sweets or the advertising of cats and baby-sitters. A breadbin, in short, is not a shop.

Between them, the five hamlets which sail under the flag of my district council have one post office-cum-trinket shop, one garage, three pubs, one teashop and a battery chicken farm. Therefore we are pretty thin on trade, though some readers in similarly sparse parts of the country will wish they could be so lucky.

In every issue of *Dalton's Weekly* a thousand dreams of self-employed country living are offered up in the shape of pubs, newsagents, grocers, garages and the like. There is a reason why so many such businesses are for sale, and the reason is that the very people who are perceived to be saving the countryside are contributing to its demise.

We are asked to believe that former townies are the saviours of the *country*, selling their slate portfolios and moving into thatch futures, thus rejuvenating the rural economy. There are a few pockets where this may be true, but mostly it is anything but. Take, for example, that vexed and commonplace thing called getting the car fixed.

Getting my car fixed involves driving it less than a mile to the aforementioned garage, which is so obliging that *last summer* when the car broke down on holiday the garage sent a mechanic 130 miles to south Devon with a spare car, and did not charge for it.

Twenty-five years ago, the present owner employed seven mechanics. Now he employs two. The reason is not Japanese reliability but British inflexibility: the new ruralites think nothing of having their cars fixed at a main agent up to 20 miles away, seemingly convinced that gleaming forecourts imply greater sophistication in matters mechanical.

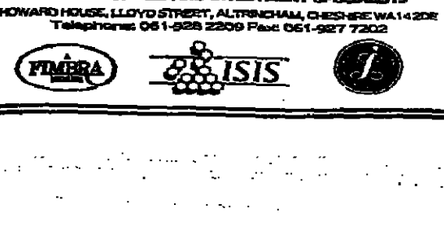
As with car repairs, so with shopping. The nearest village with a proper shop, a mini-market, is *one mile from my house*. The nearest out-of-town supermarket is a Sainsbury's, nine miles away. *Townie theory holds that* one cannot possibly go to the local shop because it is too expensive.

This week a sample list of 20 essential items, including food and household necessities such as *washing-up liquid*, cost £15.60 at the local shop and £12.76 at Sainsbury's. This may be a considerable saving for pensioners, if they can get there, but it represents peanuts to most middle-class incomers. Especially so when you add the cost of petrol, at least £1 for the 18-mile round trip.

The fact is that too many of the people now populating our villages have a lot to learn about putting back what they take out. Incomers will sign petitions to *save rural sub-post offices but they* are damned if they will set foot in one. The rural environment was *not designed to* be a dead backwater useful only for picture postcards, but a living stream of activity. *Yet now there are thou*sands of villages which are no more than quaint housing estates.

Blaming the Government, as has happened over sub-post office closures, is not good enough. The *solution to rural decay lies with* the inhabitants of rural areas. They — or rather, we — are killing the countryside with *supercilious* neglect.

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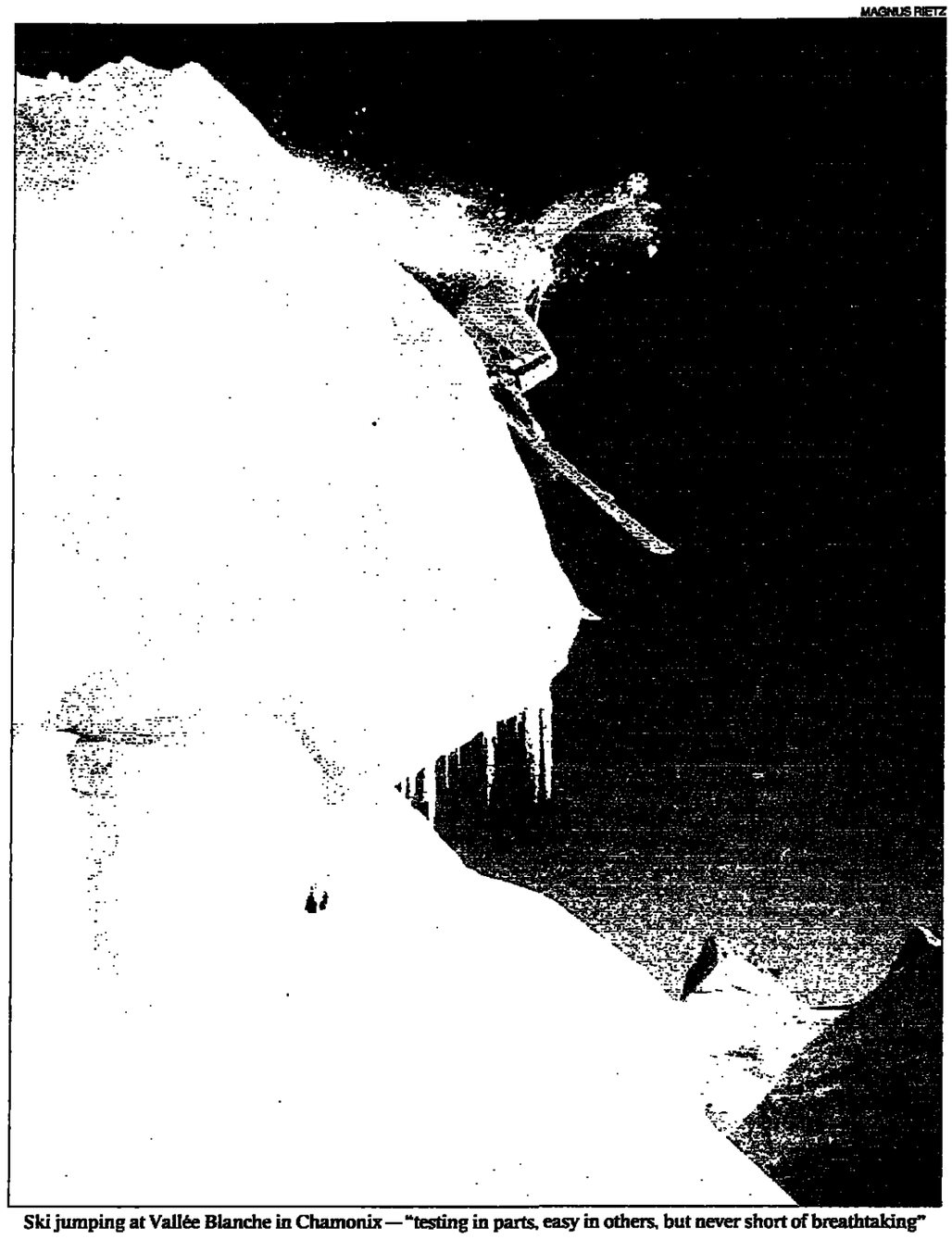
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Ski jumping at Vallée Blanche in Chamonix — "testing in parts, easy in others, but never short of breathtaking"

Braving the walls of ice and the virgin snow

Peter Dixon risks his neck skiing off-piste in the Alps, and his waistline indulging in luxury

A tale is told in skiing circles of the skier who plunged into a crevasse while skiing the Vallée Blanche — the spectacular glacier run from the top of the Aiguille du Midi, 9,000ft above the town of Chamonix, in the French Alps, and in the shadow of Mont Blanc, Europe's highest mountain.

The story goes that when his companions lowered a rope into the hole to pull him out, someone else emerged attached to the other end. Apocryphal or not, the story warns of the dangers which lurk just beneath the surface of what can seem a firm base of snow, and stresses the importance of skiing accompanied, preferably with a guide.

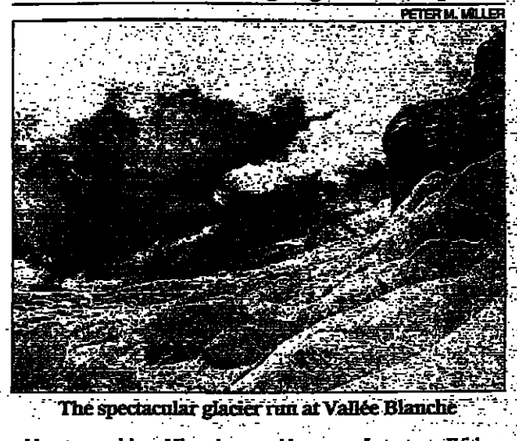
The valley, bisected by the aptly-named Mer de Glace, meanders beneath magnificent peaks and huge walls of deep blue ice. For the intermediate skier, it provides the ultimate off-piste skiing — testing in parts, easy in others, but never less than breathtaking. The valley can be tackled from two sides — just above Courmayeur, in Italy, or from Chamonix, and takes the best part of a day to ski.

Last season, I spent a few days in the French resort with Jean-Marie Olianti, a local guide.

The secret of guiding lies in the guide's ability to instil confidence in his charges . . . the capacity to pass off the unusual (in the mind of the inexperienced) as the usual. At the same time, the guide needs to judge the strengths and weaknesses of those he is leading.

With a lifetime of climbing and skiing behind him, M Olianti comes straight out of the top drawer. Tanned and craggy, laid-back and serious, he has the knack of teaching without preaching. His prime function, however, is to lead — allowing the skier time to revel in the exhilaration of a form of skiing unmatched on any piste.

PETER M. MILLER



The spectacular glacier run at Vallée Blanche

Ironically, the most anxious moment of the day comes before snapping on the skis. As the cable car approaches the top of the Aiguille du Midi, the last 150 yards up a sheer rock face, those who plan to ski back to the bottom (as opposed to those who have come along for the ride and the view) are greeted by the sight of a snake of fellow adventurers edging their way precariously down a steep ridge to the start of the run. The ridge, in parts no more than 6ft wide, has what seems like a sheer drop on either side. Roped together, and planting skis like poles to prevent sliding, the skiers need every ounce of concentration.

In reality, the climb provides a perfect start. With a potent mix of fear and excitement, the skier is left contemplating a step into the unknown. Gone are the well-groomed pistes, the marker poles and the chair-lifts. Here, on top of the world, miles from anywhere, there is no easy way back.

It is a pleasant surprise, then, to discover how gentle the 12½-mile run down to Chamonix proves to be. In parts it is possible to traverse great bowls of virgin snow, in others to hold a tight line on a narrow ledge, spellbound by crevasses to left and right. But for all its apparent placidity on a fine day, the Vallée Blanche is a dangerous place, and at no point should you stray far from your guide's tracks.

After a lunch halfway down at a marvellous, remote mountain retreat, the end of the day proved no less invigorating than the start, with an extraordinary roller-coaster ride through a natural maze of ice two to three yards high. Emerging from the maze, we found ourselves a short distance from a small cable car, at the top of which it was possible to take a train back into the town centre.

The Vallée Blanche apart, Chamonix, which hosted the 1924 Winter Olympics, has a wide variety of skiing to offer — especially for intermediates and experts. One of the resort's key attractions is its proximity to powder and off-piste skiing.

But while the Grands Montets in nearby Argentière provides a high area of ridges, bowls and mogul fields, there is also plenty of scope for beginners.

The perfect end to a perfect day came a little later, back at the Villa Terrier. To call it a chalet does it little justice and conjures up pictures of too many chalet holidays — 12 people crammed together, fighting for hot water. Each bedroom is beautifully decorated, with large *en suite* bathroom.

Here the guest is treated to the best of everything. As we arrived in from our adrenalin-powered day of skiing we were welcomed by an open log fire, a freshly brewed pot of tea and a spread of cakes to undo all the good done during the day.

Dinner was cooked by the manager and his wife, who created a house-party atmosphere. The champagne and wine may have helped a little, too.

● *Peter Dixon was a guest of The Ski Company. Bookings can be made through Abercrombie & Kent (071-730 9600). Prices per person at The Villa Terrier range from £885 in low season to £1,107 in high season, including flights and transfers, with a £400 supplement for single occupancy. A 10 per cent discount is offered to parties booking the whole chalet.*

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On a Relaxation Break in East Sussex, **Nicole Swengley** is converted to the benefits of the flotation tank

Deep, dark and weightless

As I stepped into the dark, womb-like tank, closed the sliding trapdoor and lay down in about six inches of blood-warm water, I wondered how I was going to survive the next hour. Deprived of sound and light, there was nothing to hear except my own breathing and nothing to feel except the beating of my heart.

My body floated on the surface of the Epsom-salt laden water, buoyed up as though on a supportive mattress. I lay back and answered my own question: "Don't do anything. Just lie here." So I closed my eyes and let my mind wander.

Flotation tanks are becoming an increasingly popular way of achieving a state of deep relaxation. They came to Britain from America and Australia about five years ago, and now growing numbers of people who might not normally enthuse about New Age practices are using them. Some claim that floating stimulates creative thinking and problem-solving. Others just see the tanks as a means of escaping life's pressures.

According to health experts, it is the anti-gravity aspect of floating that accounts for its benefits. This is supposedly because the brain cells normally engaged in muscular activity are liberated through weightlessness producing slower brain-wave patterns — the sort experienced during deep meditation or just before falling asleep.

Research shows that floating measurably reduces blood pressure and heart rate. It also lowers the levels of stress-related chemicals in the body, while releasing greater quantities of natural pleasure-inducing beta endorphins.

I had expected to feel panicky in such a confined space (the tank measures 7ft 8in x 3ft 11in), perhaps even a bit claustrophobic. In fact, I felt blissfully comfortable lying in a state of noise-free suspended animation. My mind drifted off from conscious thought (so much for creativity and problem-solving) and I emerged an hour later feeling a bit dopey, but with a sense of well-being that was to encourage a deep sleep that night.

"Most people who try it think it's marvellous," says Clive Bennett, proprietor of the Flackley Ash Hotel near Rye, East Sussex, which is one of the very few hotels in Britain to have a flotation tank in its leisure centre. "There really weren't enough guidelines when we installed the tank four years ago, so we offered a money-back guarantee. Nobody demanded a penny after they'd tried it," he says.

> There was nothing to hear except my own breathing

This is not the first time that Mr Bennett and his wife, Jeanie, have gone out on a limb. They bought the hotel as a wreck 20 years ago and have turned it into a comfortable 35-bedroom country-house hotel, with a very relaxed atmosphere and an excellent restaurant.

As I was booked on the hotel's sybaritic "Relaxation Break", I spent most of my time in the pleasant, softly-lit leisure centre. Here there is a good-sized, chlorine-free swimming pool, a whirlpool spa and separate saunas for men and women. There is also a small gym for the energetic, and a range of beauty and body treatments for those who prefer to take their pleasures horizontally. A steam room will open early next year.

I had thought that a two-night stay would provide plenty of time to try everything on offer, but it was surprising how full the schedule seemed to be. With an hour's full body massage, two half-hour solarium sessions, two separate hours in the flotation tank and a wash and blow-dry with the hairdresser, I barely found time to read the weekend newspapers.

After a hectic relaxation programme during the day, I escaped to my comfortable, well-decorated room with *en suite* bathroom to change for dinner in the restaurant, where I enjoyed local brill and a good Australian chardonnay.

It says much for the hotel and the Bennetts' friendly welcome that, on any weekend, about a fifth of their guests have stayed there before. Regular floaters include a BBC newsreader, and a schoolteacher who said that she did not feel like hitting a pupil for a fortnight, such was the sense of well-being engendered by the experience.

Like her, I enjoyed my weekend at Flackley Ash enormously, but I have to admit that the best part was the time I spent seeing and hearing nothing at all.

● *Relaxation Breaks at the Flackley Ash Hotel, Peasmarsh, near Rye, East Sussex TN31 6YH (0797 230651) cost £165 per person sharing a twin/double room and English breakfast. A separate Beauty Break including shampoo and set/wash and blow-dry plus facial costs £22.50 when booked with accommodation.*

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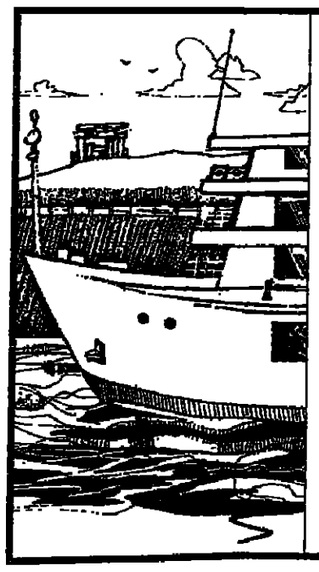
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James MacManus finds it happily difficult to leave the good life in Barbados



Bougainvillea, fringed palms and a warm blue sea grace the sandy beach of the luxurious Royal Pavilion hotel

Ideal place to keep Concorde waiting

Concorde sat on the runway shimmering through the haze like an exotic stick insect, while halfway across the island the passenger delaying flight BA272 from Barbados to London stood at the hotel reception desk trying to keep a grip on his crumbling composure.

On the far side of the desk, staff were drilling into the hotel safe. My passport and tickets were in the safe. The hotel had lost the key. No passport, no flight to London. The young woman from the travel agency looked close to tears. I told her, soothingly, that I would take the next Concorde flight. Her legs buckled and she sat down with a sob. The next flight was in a week's time, she wailed.

Leaving the team of safe-crackers to their mission impossible (it was a very solid safe), I strolled into the hotel garden. The ringed trunks of the royal palms rose 120ft to brilliant green crowns over clipped tiger grass lawns. Flamboyant shrubs and mango trees jostled with the rarer African tulip trees, Spanish oaks and Bohemian orchids. Humming birds hovered and hummed around the richly flowered cherry trees, and the occasional uniformed gardener trailed around with a watering can. Who needs a beach when you can sit under a mahogany tree with a book and a rum punch and watch that kind of show?

These carefully designed tropical gardens, spilling on to half a mile of beach, provide the setting for the Royal Pavilion and its sister hotel next door, the Glitter Bay. These are two of the four or five world-class beach hotels on Barbados. Because such hotels offer high standards of service and food in elegant surroundings, Barbados has regained its position as the number one tourist destination in the Caribbean. But the market is highly competitive. Tourists paying up to £2,000 each for a week's winter holiday in the West Indies will no longer be bought off with the old lures of sun, rum and warm blue seas. They want, and will pay for, excellence.

The Royal Pavilion aims to capture this market. Its spacious rooms rise in three decks from the shore and every room faces the sea. With its washed-pink stucco walls and arched ceilings, the hotel looks different enough to be interesting but not oppressively stylish. The Glitter Bay is more relaxed, better suited to families with children. With three restaurants between the two hotels, guests at either can lunch or dine where they wish, switching from lighter American cuisine to pasta and pizzas and then to the grander fare prepared at the Royal Pavilion's main restaurant by a former chef at Le Gavroche.

Both hotels are on the smart, west side of the island, a world away from the strip of cheaper hotels and rented apartments on the south side. The Atlantic coast to the east is different again, with a wild and relatively undeveloped shoreline much favoured by the Bajans, who traditionally shun the humid western side.

Only 21 miles long and 14 wide, the island packs plenty of diversity and no small measure of paradox into its 166 square miles. The British colonial period ended in 1966 but is still remembered, without rancour and occasionally with warmth, among the older generation of the 250,000 population. I was told with pride that the statue of Nelson in the capital, Bridgetown, had been erected 30 years before the one in Trafalgar Square.

This old-fashioned side of Barbados, seen against the backdrop of a rich and carefully preserved colonial architecture of plantation houses, sugar mills and churches, has encouraged some to view the island as a throwback to the Britain of 60 years ago. It is no such thing. It has its problem of crime and drugs among a restless young population but the island is stable, with decent public services and a vigorous press.

Where Barbados scores over its rivals is that, with its restaurants, rum shops and handful of beachfront nightclubs, it offers a more sophisticated holiday to those who want to venture out of their hotel when the sun goes down. Taxis are cheap and £6 will take you from a west coast hotel to the capital. Car hire is recommended at about £125 a week for those who want to plunge into the colonial past or take a trip to the east-coast Atlantis Hotel, which is famous for its local cuisine.

Most importantly, the food, based on fish, fruit and local chicken, is claimed to be the best in the Caribbean. If you stay in the palladian splendour of The Sandy Lane Hotel, the Royal Pavilion, the relaxed and rather special Glitter Bay or the smaller but charming Cobblers Cove, you will eat well. But you will also do so at a number of local restaurants listed below. Wines from France and America are available, and expensive, but the locally brewed Banks beer and the rum are excellent.

A shout of triumph from the Royal Pavilion reception desk broke my Bajan reverie. The safe had been cracked. I scrambled on to Concorde to hear the captain apologising to passengers for offering only a Château Talbot 1978 by way of a claret from the plane's cellars. It's that kind of plane: it took just three and a half hours to whiz from the cloudless clime of the West Indies to the cold mackerel skies of London.

Today in the Magazine, a 26-page travel special, including Michael Watkins on the Caribbean.



An idyllic holiday spot a world away from Britain's grey skies . . . a glorious beach on the west coast of Barbados

Getting there

- James MacManus travelled courtesy of Caribtours (071-581 3517) and British Airways. There are big seasonal variations in the prices of holidays on Barbados. Winter rates, from January 1 to April 2, are the most expensive; prices drop from mid-April to mid-July, when they rise again because of the school holidays in Britain.
- Weather varies little between low and high season, with temperatures of about 80F and little rain until September.
- **Getting there:** Caribtours offers a double room at the Glitter Bay, including BA flight, half board and watersports, for £1,033 a person a week low season to £1,765 high season. A similar deal at the Royal Pavilion costs £1,132 low season, £2,039 high.
- In conjunction with BA, Caribtours offers free connections from domestic UK airports, and special upgrades to Club World (from £299), first class (from £1,213) and Concorde supplements for weekly departures in winter from £1,025.
- **Where to eat:** The Mews, Holetown, West coast: informal, popular with locals and tourists. European cooking. From £15 a head. The Carambola, Derricks, St James: superb beachside restaurant. £25 a head. The Bagatelle Great House, inland from the St James coast: a 350-year-old house, it is one of the finest restaurants in the Caribbean and has an art gallery. £30 a head. La Cage aux Folles, Paynes Bay, St James: French and Chinese cuisine. About £25 a head. Bamboo beach bar and restaurant, Paynes Bay: great spot for lunch on the beach. Lively at night. About £12 a head.



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A small firm in Morecambe has made a big name in the potted shrimp business. **Clarissa Hyman** reports

Pots of pleasure by post



Bob Baxter with his potted shrimps. His family have been dealing in shrimps since the late 18th century, for the past 30 years delivering them to the Queen

Morecambe in Lancashire has three principal attractions — the Bay, Oliver Hill's neglected but striking art deco Midland Hotel, and potted shrimps. Thanks to the Baxter family, the last can be enjoyed anywhere in the country. Indeed, such is the excellence of this quintessential English savoury, that for about 30 years discreet little packages have been delivered to the most distinguished doorsteps in the land. Bob Baxter's late father obtained Royal Warrants as purveyor of potted shrimps to the Queen and the Queen Mother, and the company is proud of the pedigree.

Ever since the Baxters started dealing in shrimps in Morecambe in the late 1700s, the fortunes of the resort have ebbed and flowed along with the estuarial tides. Some things, however, remain constant. As Mr Baxter says: "We might have a kitchen full of stainless steel now, instead of wood, but the process and the shrimps are unchanged. It will never be a mass market, though, as there is a limit to supplies, and it is also highly labour intensive."

Nonetheless, there will always be a place for potted shrimps in the roll call of classic British food. One woman recently wrote to Mr Baxter, delighted to find his shrimps still as good as those she remembered eating in 1928.

The turnover of his postal trade is now £200,000 a year. A minimum size pack of nine 2oz pots of shrimps in the post costs £18.95. Mr Baxter's grandmother, a formidable woman from Southport, was the pioneer in potting shrimps commercially in the town. The family used to have its own fleet of boats, and then expanded the business to run fresh-fish shops and a chain of restaurants. At one time, the company also made shrimp and lobster paste, but now it concentrates on its business in potted shrimps and a small frozen-food centre.

> They can get through an astonishing million and a half shrimps in a year



A potted shrimp is a diminutive brown scavenger found in sandy waters in a sweep from the Solway to the Dee. Mr Baxter obtains his supplies from half a dozen full-time fishermen trawling from 30ft smacks. The shrimps are sorted, cleaned and boiled on board in sea water as soon as they are caught. Thankfully, a European Commission threat to this traditional practice was given short shrift last year. Mr Baxter says: "They were trying to mend a bucket that wasn't broken."

After the catch is landed, the families of the fishermen peel or "pick" the shrimps with their fingers at high speed. When they shell seashells by the seashore here, they get through an astonishing million and a half in a year.

On delivery to the small Baxter factory, Doreen and Kathleen, second-generation staff with 38 years of potting experience between them, preserve the shrimps in the good, old-fashioned way. Gently stewed again in best butter and spices, the shrimps are spread out on trays to cool, then carefully turned and folded so that the juices of both shrimp and butter are evenly distributed. Salted butter has always been used in the north-west, and Mr Baxter looks blank at the notion of using unsalted, or even clarified, butter. No, that is not the way they do things up there. And, as for his secret mix of spices, by heck, a herd of wild elephants would be foolish to try to drag that out of him.

After the shrimps have been chilled, the women deftly press them into the cartons, levelling them with ancient flattened spoons, before ladelling a micro-thin layer of melted butter over the top. About half their output is dispatched fresh to individual mail-order customers, the remainder is frozen for distribution to hotels, restaurants and selected retail outlets.

Mr Baxter keeps a crustacean house of horrors to demonstrate the difference between what he sees as the perfect potted shrimp and the bogus. "There's some terrible rubbish around," he says sorrowfully. "They may be cheaper, but that's not the point. Effectively, we have no competition; no-one approaches our quality on a commercial basis." To prove his point, he parades for inspection cartons in which the butter far outweighs the shrimp content, cartons with butter of a virulent yellow colour, and cartons containing a substance which would not be hard to distinguish from butter. There were cartons that had been poorly levelled, ones with icy water on the bottom, and even one in which there were prawns pretending to be shrimps.

By comparison, Baxter's shrimps do have a tantalising appeal. Curled up coquettishly in their little white pots, like tiny kiss-curls under a cap of opaque gold, they have a sweet, juicy, slightly nutty quality. The spicing is modest, but sufficient to leave an after-taste.

Most people eat them simply warmed through on toast, although they can be an excellent filling for baked potatoes. Mr Baxter likes to eat them as they come. "I just take them out of the fridge and fork them straight from the pot. Along with a gin and tonic, they go down very well."

● *Baxter's shrimps, in either 2oz or 7oz cartons, are chilled before dispatch. They can be kept in a refrigerator for a maximum of six days, or frozen on the day of receipt. A price list and order form is available from James Baxter & Son, Thornton Road, Morecambe, Lancs LA4 5PB (0524 410910, answering machine 0524 418735, fax 0524 833363).*

RESTAURANT WATCH

ALL EIGHTS
Savoy Group Restaurants
1 Savoy Hill, London, WC2 (071-240 6868)
The Eight Times Table — special "888" menus providing two-course lunches or dinners until 8pm at £8 — starts today Upstairs at the Savoy, in the Causerie at Claridge's, the Perroquet at the Berkeley, and at Grill St Quentin, the Brasserie St Quentin, and Simpson's-in-the-Strand. Note: the three hotel restaurants are closed on Sundays. The offer runs until February 8, and will be revived for the whole of August.

DENNY LODGED
Summer Lodge
Evershot, Dorset (0935 83424)
Edward Denny, for six years chef and a director of the Box Tree at Ilkley, West Yorkshire, has taken up residence at the Corbetts' Relais & Châteaux hotel in Hardy country, where he has Shaun Smith-Roberts, formerly with Adrian Clarke at Brasted's in Norwich, as his sous-chef. *Robin Young writes.* His predecessor, Martin Lee, has moved on to work with Patricia Shapland at Whitechapel Manor, South Molton, in north Devon. Lunches, including coffee, £17.50 for two courses or £19.50 for three; four-course dinner £24.50; average spend *à la carte* £32. Open for non-residents 12.30 to 1.30pm and 7.30 to 9pm, seven days a week. There are also breaks available from £255 for a couple for two days at the weekend, or £375 for three days midweek.

NEW HABITAT
The King's Road Café
Habitat, 208 King's Road, London SW3 (071-351 1211)
The café in the redesigned Habitat store has a special menu of "authentic regional Italian cuisine" created by an Amalfitan former photo-journalist, Piero Amodio, and his Italian team. Specialities include roasted peppers with *rucola* and balsamic vinegar and smoked mozzarella in carrozza. The menu changes daily. Seats 70. Open seven days a week, 10am to 6pm (5pm on Sundays).

Jonathan Meades, The Times Magazine, page 29

DISH OF THE DAY



Chef: Steven Saunders, 32.

Born: Ipswich, Suffolk.

Restaurant: Pink Geranium, Station Road, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire (0763 260215). Fixed price lunch £17.95 (£18.95 Sunday); dinner £29.95.

Present: In addition to running the Pink Geranium with eight chefs, he writes a recipe column in *Caterer & Hotelkeeper*, and does radio and television cookery broadcasts. His book *Only the Best* (Little, Brown £10.99) is devoted to children's food.

Past: Started in hotels in and around Ipswich, then trained at the Savoy and by taking holiday jobs at Michelin-starred restaurants in France. Ran the White Hart at Great Yeldham, Essex, for six years before buying the Pink Geranium in 1987.

Future: Will soon be appearing on Anglia Television's *The Food Guide* teaching children how to cook.

Personal: "I play squash and tennis, swim, and spend a lot of time at the gym."

Dish: Loin of lamb with a celeriac and potato *rösti* and a layered gâteau of provençal vegetables, £21.95.

ROBIN YOUNG

Higher prices, wider horizons

Jane MacQuitty looks at what 1994 holds for the adventurous drinker

Wine prices in 1994, like house prices, have nowhere to go but up. And after at least three years of price cutting on everything from the finest French vintages to the lowliest £1.99 table wine, drinkers can hardly be surprised.

Fortunately, what will not change is the extraordinarily wide range of wine on sale here. New arrivals in 1993 included Hugh Ryman's astonishingly good £2.99 chardonnay from Moldova, as well as Safeway's thrilling, vibrant, beaujolais-method "young vatted" reds from Bulgaria and Spain. And we can expect similar surprises in 1994.

So what should the discerning, cost-conscious wine drinker be buying in 1994 and where is it likely to come from? France will feature in the frame but not, it seems, the classic regions' wines. Bordeaux and burgundy have improved in quality over the past 20 years and are hard to beat at the top end. But if you are after the best value and you only have a fiver or less to spend, do not bother with these two. Northern French wine-producing areas including Alsace and the Loire are unlikely to bring your tastebuds much joy at this price level either. And of course, you will need twice as much money to buy anything decent from Champagne.

The Gallic great white hope continues to be the south and southwest, whose beneficial Mediterranean climate and the arrival of new money and trained wine makers give the area plenty of potential.

Outside southern France, the hot wine tip for 1994 continues to be eastern Europe, the more so now that state monopolies are no more and private enterprise and competition are on the increase. Not so long ago Hungary's big thing was dreary Bull's Blood and ancient tokay. Since the 1991 vintage, Hugh Ryman's good Gyöngyös sauvignon and chardonnay have revealed the country's true wine-making potential and shown the way forward. Bulgaria, too, has advanced a step with its young vatted cabernet and merlot.

Other bright spots in what was the eastern bloc include Moldova's chardonnay, and at some stage other newly independent eastern states, especially Georgia, traditionally the source of the finest Russian wine, should start to show their true colours.

Western Europe's dark horse continues to be Portugal, home to a wealth of excellent, indigenous grape varieties and great wines such as port, but somehow not quite there yet in the fine-wine stakes. However, trained foreign wine-makers and high-tech equipment are beginning to produce the right bottles there.

Outside Europe, wine-producing countries in the New World are again the ones to watch in 1994. Australia is still king of the New World bargain bottle, with lots of great buys at every price. Neighbouring New Zealand is catching up fast, especially with vital, racy white wines made from the sauvignon grape and others. Now that sanctions have been lifted, South Africa is worth watching.

California continues to enjoy some success here but its prices are still too high, with the honourable exceptions of Fetzer and Stratford. Look out too for better South American wines; while not in the big league yet, good, ordinary Chilean sauvignon and cabernet have arrived.

Jonathan Meades on beer, The Times Magazine, page 26

BEST BUYS FOR 1994

- *South and southwest France, especially wines with the Vin de Pays d'Oc and Coteaux du Languedoc appellations.*
- *New-wave eastern European wines, such as Bulgaria's young vatted cabernet, exclusive to Safeway, Hungary's Gyöngyös sauvignon and Moldova's chardonnay.*
- *Portuguese whites and reds.*
- *Almost any Australian wine from £2.99 to £10.99.*
- *New Zealand whites, particularly sauvignon at £3 to £7.*
- *South African white wines in the £2.99 to £5 bracket.*
- *Selected other New World wines, including Fetzer and Stratford from California amongst other wineries and Chilean sauvignon and cabernet.*

RICHARD IMRIE


Wine lovers have never enjoyed such wide variety as today

Have a nice eating day

California is the state of excess, and good food is no exception

'When it's not fun any more it's time to get off," said Vanessa Hyatt, on my recent trip to northern California. I'd asked her about the region's cuisine, but I think she also meant love, life, the universe, everything. And after all, perhaps food shouldn't be considered in isolation. Ms Hyatt is an archetypal Californian, and a gourmet. Fortunately her native cuisine, being the world's most innovative, is unlikely to ever make her "get off" as, when it comes to ingredients, Californians are adept at enhancing what nature initially provides.

The range of ingredients cultivated in California is quite amazing. Fresh herbs (pronounced "erbs") are a perfect example. If you want some basil ("bay-zul"), you have the option of Tuscan, Genovese, Mexican spice, Thai, lemon, cinnamon, large leaf, or indeed any one of several other varieties. Similarly, it's not difficult to find between 20 and 30 types of tomatoes in food stores.

The scale of ingredients available seems to follow the American maxim of big is best. For gourmets, though, it is not a case of being spoilt for choice. Among aubergines, for example, the banana version has fewer seeds and less bitterness, making it ideal for salads. Meanwhile, the delicate flesh of the white aubergine makes it perfect for grilling.

As the hunt for best-quality ingredients is always on, especially by chefs, certain areas in California are emerging as pre-eminent for specific foodstuffs, such as Sonoma for baby lamb, and Petaluma for duck. Meanwhile, a growth in cottage industries is producing speciality items such as foie gras and goats' cheese, and there is even research into producing truffles commercially, something not yet achieved in Europe.

Not surprisingly, more comprehensive local production is having a significant effect on the sales of European specialities. Imported status is no longer so chic, and many consumers are buying the Californian equivalent instead. Californian olive oil is said to be fruitier and more intensely flavoured than Italian, while the choice includes oil from single olive varieties, as well as early and late harvest styles.

"Many people have looked at imports and thought, we can do that," says Bob Hurley, chef at the California Café in Yountville, Napa. He adds: "I think we've come past the point of looking to Europe for influences. Just as with our wines, we're doing our own thing." Doing their own thing, California-style, also means utilising their own heritage. "The psychology of the Nineties is a return to basics that are rooted in tradition," says John Nash, the chef at Fetzer Vineyards in Mendocino.

One result is that "granny cooking" (the type of inexpensive dishes traditionally served to working people in diners) has been brought out of retirement. Meatloaf, probably the best known example, is so passé that it's actually rather avant-garde when a lighter, more vegetarian version is served up in chic San Francisco restaurants.

Similarly, Latin and Asian flavours are used to "contemporise" pot roast, while mashed potato is another hit item, flavoured perhaps with goats' cheese and garlic.

Grannies have always been strong on puddings, but I wonder what they would think of using lemon grass and coconut milk to refresh a traditional rice pudding, or, indeed, of giving the dish more spirit by adding golden raisins marinated in Russian vodka.

These highly palatable twists mean that Californian cuisine is always in the fast lane. One dessert that took me by surprise was a plate of fresh strawberries, figs and melon, attractively decorated with red and green speckles. My first mouthful proved to be hot stuff. The speckles were fresh chilli.

Trends in California also inspire many renowned chefs in Britain. Lorna Wing, one of London's most innovative caterers, says: "We're influenced by Californian cuisine more than anything else. They take ethnic cuisine so much better than we do, as they're not afraid to mix." Willi Elsener, executive chef at The Dorchester, adds: "Being light and nutritious, Californian cuisine adapts very well to today's lifestyle."

IAN WISNIEWSKI

● *Recipes for home cooks can be found in* Fog City Diner Cookbook *by Cindy Pawlcyn, based on dishes served in the eponymous San Francisco restaurants. It has just arrived at Books for Cooks (071-221 1992), price £16.99.*

DIANA LEADBETTER

Oranges with appeal

Frances Bissell suggests tangy new-season dishes and her own recipe for marmalade



The Seville oranges will be in the shops soon, and I use this lovely, sharp fruit in as many ways as possible. This time last year I was in Jerez and the orange trees in the streets were laden with fruit. The oranges belong to the council and I was told that a contractor had been called in to pick them and sell them to Britain's marmalade makers.

Lack of rain meant that the oranges were small but, to me, their size indicated that, though not very juicy, the flavour would be concentrated. I scrumped some and within a day of returning to London I had made a small batch of bright, tangy marmalade. The rest of the oranges I used in other dishes.

First I peeled off long, thin strips of zest, put them in a decanter, and filled it up with a cream sherry. I rubbed a sugar lump over the orange to take up the rest of the fragrant essential oils and added it to the decanter, together with a splash of Iberian brandy. The idea is to leave this *vino aromatizado con naranja* for several weeks, and then serve it in small glasses as a digestif. I also find it good in cooking — just a dash used in a duck casserole makes all the difference. One of the joys of Seville oranges is that they are not sprayed with chemicals, but this means their shelf-life is relatively short.

The juice of the Seville orange can also be used in fish cookery, such as roasted skate with Seville oranges, and scallops and red mullet with orange sauce, and it is particularly good with mackerel and other oily fish.

José Antonio Valdespino, at the restaurant La Mesa Redonda in Jerez, serves thin slices of tuna marinated in a little sherry vinegar with extra virgin olive oil. Try this variation from my kitchen.

Orange marinated tuna fish

(serves 4-6)

1lb/455g trimmed fillet of tuna fish
extra virgin olive oil
sea salt
freshly ground black pepper
1 or 2 Seville oranges, juice only (use the zest in another dish)
fresh dill, chives or flat-leaf parsley

Slice the tuna fish as thinly as possible; firming it up in the freezer helps. Brush each slice with oil and season lightly with salt and pepper. Leave for up to three hours, covered in the refrigerator. Just before serving, brush with orange juice. Decorate with herbs and serve.

PHEASANTS, particularly the hens, are large and plump at the end of the season. Even though they have, by this time, accumulated more fat than early in the season and can thus be roasted without barding, I still prefer to pot-roast them, preferably on a bed of onions, garlic and root vegetables, which caramelise nicely. The bitter-sweet juice of the Seville orange replaces the more usual lemon. Chicken and guinea fowl also respond well to this treatment.

Before roasting a duck, prick it all over, and rub with the juice of a Seville orange, tucking some of the zest inside the body cavity.

Pot-roast pheasant with Seville orange

(serves 4)

1 large hen pheasant
1 Seville orange
salt, pepper
4 bay leaves
parsley stalks
½lb/230g parsnips
½lb/230g carrots
½lb/230g celeriac
½lb/230g turnips
1oz/30g butter, or 2tbsp extra virgin olive oil
2tbsp Spanish brandy
4tbsp dry Amontillado or Oloroso sherry

Trim off any feathers and excess fat from the bird. Peel the zest from the orange, putting half of it in the cavity and reserving the rest for another purpose. Halve the orange, discard the seeds and squeeze out the juice. Rub the bird all over with the juice, season it, and put the bay leaves and parsley stalks inside the cavity. Peel the vegetables and cut into even-size pieces, about the size of a cork. Heat the butter or oil and fry the vegetables all over. Transfer them to a casserole, and then brown the bird all over, and place it on top of the vegetables. Pour the brandy over the bird, and, standing well back, light it. Deglaze the frying pan with sherry and a little water or stock, and pour the juices over the bird. Cover and cook in a pre-heated oven at 180C/350F, gas mark 4 for about an hour.

Joint the bird, and serve it with the vegetables. Strain the juice into a jug, and serve separately. It can be enriched with cream if you like. Watercress or flat-leaf parsley will brighten up the dish, as will a few wedges of orange.

Now for the marmalade: I make no claims for this being the best, easiest or most economical recipe, but it works for me, and makes just the right quantity — a few jars ranging in size from yoghurt jars to jam jars, some for me, some for friends. I am not interested in making as much marmalade from as few oranges as possible.

Seville orange marmalade

(makes about 4lb/1.80kg)

6-8 Seville oranges
2pt/680ml water
about 3½lb/1.70kg granulated sugar

Scrub the oranges well, rinse, and put in a lidded saucepan with the water. Cook gently, covered, for two to three hours until soft. Remove from the heat and allow to cool overnight. Halve the oranges, scoop out the pulp and seeds into a sieve set over a wide pan. Rub through, and add the cooking liquid and the sugar. Heat gently, and when the sugar has dissolved, boil for a few minutes. Meanwhile, finely slice the orange peel, or process for a few seconds in the food processor. Stir the orange into the boiling sugar syrup. Continue cooking just until the marmalade reaches setting point. Allow to stand for five minutes to distribute the peel evenly. Fill small hot, clean jars right to the top. Cover with waxed discs and Cellophane covers, label and store when cool.

There is invariably a little marmalade left over. Serve it hot over vanilla ice-cream, use it to flavour a home-made ice-cream, or stir it into a freshly made rice pudding.

RICH orange curd is rather time-consuming to make and is something of a luxury. It is tempting to make it in large batches, on the principle that as it takes so long to make, it is worth making plenty of it; it is a temptation to be resisted unless you plan to give lots away or use some of it immediately in Seville orange ice-cream. The reason for this is that the curd does not keep: no more than four weeks, preferably less. As it contains raw eggs, it should be kept in the refrigerator. Do not let this put you off making it. Seville oranges are such a treat that they deserve exploiting. I pot my curd in 100g jars. The following recipe will. I'm afraid, fill no more than four. Lemons and limes can be prepared in the same way.

Seville orange curd

(makes about 1lb/455g: this recipe uses raw eggs)

3 Seville oranges, two if large
6oz/170g caster sugar and 2 or 3 sugar lumps
3½oz/100g unsalted butter, cut into pieces
3 free-range eggs, well beaten and sieved

Grate the zest from the oranges, and put to one side. Rub the sugar lumps over the orange to extract the rest of the oil and flavour, and put in a bowl set over hot water, together with the rest of the sugar. Halve the oranges and squeeze the juice into the sugar. Add the pieces of butter, and stir until the sugar has almost dissolved and you have a uniform mixture. Gradually beat in the eggs, and continue to cook over hot water until the mixture thickens. This will take anything up to 40 minutes. The process should not be hurried, as you risk curdling. After about 25 minutes, stir in the orange zest. I do not like to add it earlier as it takes on a somewhat marmaladey quality from long cooking, and I like to preserve the sharp, fresh flavour of the bitter orange.

The mixture should lightly coat the back of a spoon before you remove it from the heat. Do not worry if it looks pourable rather than spreadable. The mixture thickens as it cools. Pour into small, clean jars, allow to cool slightly, then seal, label and refrigerate.

You can use the curd to make a number of easy, yet delicious chilled or iced puddings, such as soufflés, parfaits, and ice-creams.

Spirited kick-start to the day

Grappa is a potent drink enjoyed all over the world, yet its Italian origins are humble

JOHN BRUNTON



The Bottega Nardini on the wooden Ponte degli Alpini at Bassano del Grappa, Italy

Several highly alcoholic drinks produced in northern Italy help those who live there through the cold, raw winters. The added excuse for their popularity is that the kick will aid the digestion of the delicious but heavy food of the region. But no drink is finer than grappa, whether taken in a bar as an early morning starter or as a flavoursome *digestivo* at the end of the day.

Grappa is the pure, clear, potent spirit distilled from the fermented remains of grapes after pressing, and the Nardini family is one of the oldest producers, going back seven generations. Today, Giuseppe, Cristina and Angelo Nardini sell four million litres of grappa a year, accounting, they say, for 20 per cent of the market.

The business remains centred in the mountain town of Bassano del Grappa, perched on the edge of the Dolomites. It operates out of a small *grapperia*, the Bottega Nardini, which sits on the famous wooden Ponte degli Alpini, designed by Andrea Palladio, spanning the Brenta river.

Here Bortolo Nardini started distilling and selling his grappa in 1779. The design of the bottle and the label have remained the same since that time and, says Giuseppe Nardini, so has the quality of the grappa.

The bar has survived a fire on the bridge, and bombs aimed at destroying the bridge during the First World War. The shelves are lined with ancient metal urns and pewter serving jugs. Customers sit on the blackened wooden benches to savour the velvety liquid. Don't bother to ask for anything else, only grappa is served here.

Sitting in his office behind the busy bar, Signor Nardini told me that sticking to the family traditions was the secret of their continuing success. "To begin with," he said, "we have never really changed our particular system of distillation, but with modern standards we have stayed loyal to the grapes grown in the surrounding Veneto region, because I believe it is this soil that gives our grappa its particular taste. We have never been tempted to buy grapes from other parts of Italy."



Pure, clear, potent grappa

Another tradition is that the Nardinis never advertise their product, and have no agents to market it, yet still manage to export all over the world. Wholesalers who want to buy from the company must pay in advance, a policy not easily accepted in Italy.

The popularity of grappa is expanding, especially in Germany, America and Japan. There are many varieties and grappa-drinkers' preferences are as decided as those of whisky-drinkers. Many producers add fruit and herb flavours, one of the most delicious being almond.

Signor Nardini says that for him "the tradition of our region is for people to buy our pure, clear grappa, and then add their own fruits at home. We make only one aromatic grappa, using *ruta* (rue), a mountain herb from the near-by Monte Grappa, because we have always done this."

The production of grappa is essentially simple: whereas cognac is distilled wine, grappa is made from an even more basic product — the distilled of *vinaccia*, which is the pulp of seeds and skin left over after the grapes have been pressed to make wine.

Signor Nardini says that grappa originated around Monte Grappa; in this impoverished region the farmers did not want to throw away the remains of their grapes after making the wine. The solution was to distill them.

The Nardinis buy vast quantities of *vinaccia* from local vineyards, made up of white grapes such as chardonnay, pinot and prosecco, mixed with the red *cépages* of cabernet, merlot and *reboso*. The grappa-making season lasts from November to April.

First, the *vinaccia* is stored in a vacuum, where it ferments, changing sugar into alcohol. The pulp is then steamed in huge vats and the vapour that comes off is distilled into a liquid. The result is so strong that water has to be added at a later stage to reduce the alcohol to a drinkable level.

For the first time, a woman has entered the formerly all-male preserve of Nardini grappa. Giuseppe's daughter, Cristina, is helping him to run the business. But it is unlikely that any Nardini, male or female, will change the recipe for such a successful product.

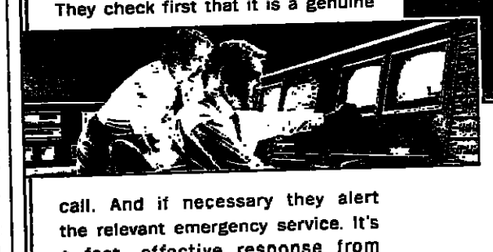
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Keen young blades

Lynne Greenwood watches a new generation of skaters all set to be inspired by Torvill and Dean


GUZELIAN

Confident Olivia Milnes looks ready for take-off at Bradford Ice Rink's Saturday classes, where children can advance from a standing start through nine grades

Jayne Torvill was ten years old when she laced up her first pair of skating boots, bought second-hand by her parents. When ice rinks open their doors today for the huge range of "learn to skate" classes on offer, there will be children as young as four in the queue.

Most of the children will make sure they are back home in time to watch Torvill and her partner, Christopher Dean, on television this afternoon in the British Ice Dance Championships, when they return to amateur competition for the first time since they began their professional career in 1984.


Young James Griffiths makes wobbly progress

Former world and Olympic champions, Torvill and Dean will once again provide the inspiration for a new generation of youngsters to take to the ice. Ice arena managers know that when Britain boasts champions who capture the imagination of television audiences, queues form at their doors.

For 15-year-olds Tessa McGarry and Jonathon O'Dougherty, from Norris Green, Liverpool, this weekend's championships at the Sheffield Arena provide their biggest test to date. They have been partners on the ice for just 15 months and will compete in the junior section.

Both train six days a week, in between working hard for this summer's GCSEs, and are positive about making ice skating a career. "People say it cannot be a steady career, but it's what I want to aim for," says Jonathon, who started skating only three years ago, when his grandmother took him to the local ice rink. Tessa's mother, Ann, is a professional coach and has represented Britain in the European Championships, but Tessa's first love was horse riding. She was 12 when she decided to try the ice.

"I had a go and found it was harder than I expected," says Tessa. "But it was a new challenge." Now the pair, winners of last year's British and Welsh Primary Championships, are aiming to compete at the highest level.

"Torvill and Dean are brilliant. I watch them on video all the time," Tessa says. "I think it's great that they are coming back to competition. We'd love to achieve what they have."

Most of the youngsters who enjoy Saturday morning lessons at Britain's 65 ice arenas have no such ambitions. They are there for fun — and falling over is all part of the game. Only a few cling doggedly to the rails, frightened to experiment with a balancing act on slimline blades, a fear that professional coach Joy Sutcliffe knows how to handle.

"I had one little girl who was just screaming at the barrier, too frightened to go near the ice. Eventually I persuaded her to sit on my boot, legs outstretched, close to the ice, just to get the feel of it. When she finally stepped on to the ice herself, she realised it was OK and loved it from then on."

Ms Sutcliffe is one of six coaches on the staff of the Bradford Ice Rink in West Yorkshire, where children can learn to skate on the Young Blades courses. From a standing start, they can progress through nine grades.

Ten-year-old Sara Miller is now the proud owner of a Grade One certificate, which her sister Lisa, eight, is determined to achieve too. They attend the Bradford Rink's Saturday morning Frizzbie Bear Fun Club classes with a group of schoolfriends, and one or two adventurous parents who volunteer to test their skills on the ice.

"It's brilliant," says Sara. " I'm going for my Grade Two now, where I've got to skate backwards as well as forwards. We've been skating in Aberdeen too, where my grandmother lives."

Some of the girls enjoyed their first taste of ice skating at a birthday party at the arena, an increasingly popular venue for children's celebrations. Seven-year-old Tina Bayley is the youngest of the group, and her father, David, is a regular volunteer on the ice with them.

"For the children, it's a chance to acquire another skill," he says. "If it is something you didn't do as a child, you want your children to experience it. You might give them a gentle push in that direction, but not to the point where you might alienate them."

Although he found a pair of skating boots in his Christmas stocking, he is reluctant to buy a new pair for Tina while her feet are growing fast and before he is sure of her lasting enthusiam for the sport. For although the cost of skating sessions compares favourably with participation in any other sport, equipment and lessons can be expensive. A pair of skating boots for a child can cost from £50 to £200, and private lessons up to £5 for 15 minutes. Group tuition is cheaper and costs between £3 and £5 for half an hour, usually including a general skating session afterwards.

James Griffiths, six, attends Bradford's Saturday morning class and now enjoys practising his own version of a turn. Even when he ends up on his bottom, he gets straight back up for another try. "It doesn't hurt when you fall," he says. "Even my little brother has tried it, and he's only two."

Children's events

LONDON

☐ **Mr Rabbit meets Brer Santa Claus:** Marionettes act out traditional Brer Rabbit stories on board the Puppet Theatre Barge.
Little Venice, Blomfield Road, London W9 (071-249 6876). Today and tomorrow at 3pm. (Also January 15 and 16). Adults £4.50, children £4.

☐ **Sleeping Beauty:** Puppets, humour and music.
Little Angel Marionette Theatre, 14 Dagmar Passage, Cross Street, London N1 (071-226 1787). Today and tomorrow at 11am (for three to six-year-olds) and 3pm (for over-sixes). Morning performance prices: adults £5, children £4.50. Afternoons: adults £6.50, children £5.

☐ **Astronomers' stories:** Plays based on famous astronomers, clockmakers and explorers.
Old Royal Observatory, Greenwich Park, London SE10 (081-858 4422). Today and tomorrow from 12.30pm. Adults £3.75, children £2.75.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

☐ **Whittlesey Straw Bear Festival:** Traditional barn dance: folksongs and music story.
Whittlesey town centre. Today from 10.30am-3.30pm and tomorrow (when the straw bear burning takes place) from 12pm-2pm. Free.

OXFORDSHIRE

☐ **Cinderella:** Charming musical pantomime with bouncing Buttons, real ponies to lead Cinders's coach and stunning scenery.
Oxford Playhouse, 11-12 Beaumont Street (0865 798600). Today at 2pm and 7pm. Adults from £8, children from £6.

SCOTLAND

☐ **Discovery room:** Craft activity workshops.
Museum of Education, Scotland Street School, Glasgow (041-429 1202). Today from 10am and tomorrow from 2pm. Free.

WALES

☐ **The Snow Queen:** The Hans Andersen traditional tale in a wintry Christmas setting.
Sherman Theatre, Cardiff (0222 232041). Today at 10am, 2pm and 7pm. Adults from £6.50, children from £4.50.

JANE BIDDER

● *For information and a list of all ice rinks, send sae to National Ice Skating Association, 15-17 Gee Street, London EC1V 3RE (071-253 3824/0910). British Ice Dance Championships today at Sheffield Arena, South Yorkshire (0742 565656), shown live this afternoon on Grandstand, BBC1 from 12.15pm.*

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ANNE lives in Paris. This very feminine charming Englishlady needs a warm wealthy cultivated cosmopolitan as her partner for life in exciting Europe. Please Reply to Box No 5340.

ARE you caring, loving, intelligent, successful, handsome & a true romantic with GSOH? Do you consider yourself special? Are you looking for that unique love? I am 36, all of the above, and more. I would love to know that there is someone out there whom I can appreciate, & who can appreciate me! Photo please. Box No 6263

ATTRACTIVE, tall (5'8"), shapely, gentle woman of character and intelligence, mid-30, is passionate and adventurous to the core but shy exterior wishes to meet man of strength, integrity, depth, sensitivity and humour for long term sharing of mental interests and physical tenderness. Box No 5481

ATTRACTIVE professional lady 45 tall slim with GSOH & adventure, loves life but misses a special relationship, seeks genuine male n/s, self-aware who is free to explore & develop life's frontiers. Midlands or beyond. Please reply with photo to Box No 5410

ATTRACTIVE lady graduate 51 seeks a warm articulate N/S male companion for pursuits cultural and frivolous in the Cardiff area. Friendship possibly more. Reply to Box No 6352

ATTRACTIVE, petite, French female graduate, divorced professional, 39, in London seeks educated caring man of integrity. Photos exchanged. Please Reply to Box No 5389

ATTRACTIVE intelligent vivacious female warm and loving mid 40's seeks caring intelligent fun-loving male GSOH to share interests. Photo to Box 6500

ATTRACTIVE Oriental lady seeks attractive, n/s, successful sliding caucasian 38+. Photo and phone no. please. Reply to Box No 6390.

ATTRACTIVE educated 40's Clos lady, seeks similar male to share laughter, life, the universe and everything. Please Reply to Box No 5400

ATTRACTIVE lady, mid 30's, living Kent, would like to meet Gentleman who enjoys the fine things of life. Photo apprec. Please Reply to Box No 5428

ATTRACTIVE, slim, prof. lady, likes sunshine, travel, sailing, country walks, the arts, seeks warm, intelligent man 43-57, GSOH. Photo to Box No 5469

ATTRACTIVE city teacher /manager, 47 seeks gentleman, house, garden, in need of care & attention in 1994. Box No 5394

ATTRACTIVE young lady needs tall gentleman to bring out the best in her, photo appreciated Please Reply to Box No 5399

ATTRACTIVE prof 49 div seeks n/s special man for pursuits cultural social and intimate? Herts. Photo please to Box 6494.

ATTRACTIVE sporty discerning lady 50's seeks tall sincere gent. Photo please. Box No 5372

BLISS for me is union with a distinguished English gentleman of means. 60+, prof widower, classy and caring who seeks a Continental lady 46, tall, very attractive and creative. Letter plus photo only to Box No 6266

BLONDE iceberg sky quiet exterior but intelligent, sensual centre, caring and loving person seeking 50's to crack ice. Please Reply to Box No 5360

BLONDE, mid 30's slim, good looking, seeks man for fun and romance. London. Box No 5438

LADIES

BRIGHT, attractive intelligent, successful woman, mid 40's, sociable but shy, is seeking thoughtful, caring man to share leisure time and fun and prevent her becoming a workaholic. London and home counties preferable. Please Reply to Box No 5412

BRIGHT bubbly slim 47 year old independent english rose, seeks stimulating male. Herts.Please Reply to Box No 5472

CULTURED lively, intelligent, professional woman, lover of music, theatre, country walking, friends and fun, seeks similar man for shared activities and love. I am slim, 5ft 5in and attractive, 53 and live in NW London. Reply to Box No 5384

DARK attractive widow 54 property in the UK and abroad seeks and man, professional/businessman aged 55-60. Box No 5343

DOCTOR 39, seeks tall prof man, London & SE. Lets enjoy 1994 & Life. Plse Reply Box No 5457

DYNAMIC woman searches for true love with outstanding gentleman (28-38) Box No 5371.

ENGLISH rose, slim pretty with GSOH seeks caring, humorous n/s man 50-60 to share life. Please Reply to Box No 5432

ENTICINGLY attractive prof female 49 slim n/s affectionate, tactile, lively. Loves The Arts, seeks similar intelligent male 48-57 Herts Box No 6321

EXTREMELY attractive separated lady 42, ex Dior model, loves country living, horses, travelling, easy evenings in and fun nights out, seeks British wealthy gentleman himself(ex man (40-55) for a future. Reply with photo to Box No 5377

FELICITY Kendal/Liza Goddard cross 39, good background, perfect partner for lawyer, M.P. type London/Home Counties. Please Reply to Box No 5357

FEMALE 36 seeks interesting male penpals aged 35-45 for correspondence, companionship, possibly marriage. Please Reply to Box No 5431

FUN-LOVING blond lady, 40's, caring & intelligent seeks attractive professional & sincere male. Please reply with photo to Box No 5433

GENTLEMAN cultured, sincere sought by teacher 56, interested countryside, current affairs, pub meals, plays, concerts, gardening and homelife. SE region. Please Reply to Box No 5515

HAMPSHIRE based woman, 46, n/s, will not disappoint a tall public school man with equal independence of mind and means who likes natural good looks, flair and vitality. Please Reply to Box No 5456

I am surrounded by American professionals looking for a special professional guy, 35-45 to enjoy with me the USA fun but together we can enjoy golf, travel, wining/dining, theatre, home/family life. I am an attractive, stylish, slim, warm, funloving young lady. 40 looking for warm, caring, funloving guy to share this life (Warks). Reply to Box No 5272

I want to share my life again - Do you? Attractive well-educated, slender lady, London based, seeks special gentleman for lasting relationship. I can offer warmth, support, laughter and sensitivity. General interests - Particularly rustic, and I adore lazy evenings at home with lots of hugs. If you, are tall, prof/exec. background, 55/65, kind and loving, and would value and match the above, please write to Box No 5291

LADIES

LADY late 50's working, attractive, educated, caring, affectionate seeks similar gentleman, London/SE. Please Reply to Box No 5485

LADY 39 n/s. I'm looking forward to '94 and meeting someone special. If you are looking for genuine caring relationship please reply to Box No 6398

LIVELY charming sensitive lady, 50's, attractive, slim, wise and witty, involved in the arts, many civilised interests, seeks cultured male companion 50+, close to London. Box No 5427

LOOKING for someone special? Lady, early 50's, young & active, N/S, lives in N/W, varied interests include; badminton, theatre, eating in/out, lake district, travel. If you have similar interests you could be my someone special. Please reply with photo to Box No 5418

LOVELY funloving 5'4 slender redhead in Washington D.C. seeks translatlantic mate 5'4 for companion with possible future. Light winter sports & animals a + Fax RAH 0101 703 848 1660

MR D'Arcy where are you? If you are 40ish and living in London area, Elizabeth Bennett is looking for you. Box 5446

PETITE english lady 50 years, professional, n/s, enjoys countryside, walking, travel, dancing out, talking, laughing. (Bucks) Reply to Box No 5462

POST Christmas blues? A fresh start? Charming, sophisticated, attractive, solvent prof seeks spirited, caring male counterpart (55-70). Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6482

PROF lady 50 wants caring London, Home Counties gentlemen seeks older (55-75) professional gentleman for permanent relationship. Box No 5461

PROF sporty lady (42) seeks caring companion for indoor tennis, walking, theatre, films, dinner and talk. In 1994 our year? Genuine replies London area, S. West. Box No 5447

RATED attractive lawyer (39). Fetishes Porsches, doctors & dogs. Seeks tall, handsome man witty, good taste & money to match. 150-171. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 5326

SCANDINAVIAN slim attractive NS professional female with youthful outlook to life, enjoys sport, laughter and good conversation, seeks tall male 40-50 with similar qualities around London area. Please reply with photo to Box No 5473

SHARE fun times with me! I am 46, attractive and enjoy tennis, golf, eating out and holidays in the sun. If you have a GSOH, n/s close to Newbury or Bristol. Photo pls. Box No 5452

SPECIAL man needed: Stunning girl, 31 with charming witty personality, loving and sporty who likes a great social life and the best things in life seeks intelligent, warm, stylish, interesting, interested, successful man 32-42, 5'10" + who's considered to be a 'very good catch' just like me. Photo guaranteed reply. Reply to Box No 5406

LADIES

STUNNING Asian grad 30 div seeks n/s passionate sensitive beau needs recharging, reprogramming and spoiling. Photo and phone. Box No 5493.

TEN Handicap on two legs, and international on four. Very attractive lady, independent athletic type, set fun to be with. Curling at heart from kind, very good looking, uncomplicated and reliable fellow (45-58). Photo please. Please Reply to Box No 5395

WANTED tall active no mate, 60s/60s not seeking younger lady, interests Arts, gardens, countrysides, SOH. East Anglia/Essex Reply to Box No 6392

WEST END & W. Oxford widow 54 young at heart & romantic needs to meet affectionate & caring gent 40+. Box No 5478.

WHERE Oh where is that matching male half for a literally lovely lady 40's London lady? Please Reply to Box No 5373.

WILTSHIRE lady, lively, smart, intelligent and attractive seeks kind, sincere male 60-65 Photo pls to Box No 5379

YOUTHFUL-90 tennis, attractive, slim, thinking, conversationale, humorous, good life style London, seeks character-ful male counterpart 45-55. Box No 5435 with photo please.

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ADVENTUROUS Francophile sought for gourmet lovers. You're lighthearted sensitive independent, you like walking and fur fantasies, cicadas and cappuccino, travel, travelling south. Box No 5439.

ARE you looking for a happy, relaxed, unconvoluted warm physical relationship? If you are tall, attractive, sensual, n/s, 40-50 and feel you want friendship, loving and laughs then please send me your're photo and phone number. I'm a well-off, young say good looking professional man, in my late 50's, nursing a broken heart, living in central London. Please Reply to Box No 5440

ARE you a lovely fun loving lady 35ish, located Esher, Surrey, Berks, who enjoys a challenge then you might like to meet a very fit successful executive society admit since separation, who includes sports theatre, the country, good food and wine and the likes. Enough! No letters, Photograph appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 5479

ARE you my very special man, 45+ romantic, caring GSOH, no, cheerful, attractive, lively lady, Loughton based is seeking genuine loving relationship. Maturity not essential, priorities are. Box No 5496. No please. Replies to Box No 5496

ARE you looking for an interesting relationship with a successful, tall, easy going, recently divorced non-pressure man in his mid 50's? If so, and you are between 38 & 50 please reply with photo which will be returned. Box No 6470

A Suffolk businessman seeks smart lady, 40+, no ties, NS, for world travel, country walks, log fires, art & music. Please Reply to Box No 5492

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GENTLEMEN

ATTRACTIVE and humorous lady (over 40) sought by successful divorced man Gate 51-filmi living central London for fun, romance, travel. Please respond with photograph which will be returned. Please Reply to Box No 5353

BACHELOR, 38 prof, solvent, sports, London based. Unencumbered, seeks intelligent attractive lady, N/S for long term relationship. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 5324

BEINGS prof gent, tall, 49, n/s, no ties, lives best locality, seeks bright new for New Years caring, attractive, tall, wide interests prof 35-40ish. Please Reply to Box No 5418

COMPANY DIRECTOR with international business, handsome, smart, 5'9 in his 30's. Kind, warm, caring with treasure of love seeks connections with loyal, classic feminine figure just less below 28, adaptable, intelligent, willing to accentuate beauty & devote for special relationship and marriage. Please reply with full photo to Box No 5339

COUNTRY loving gentleman 59, tall, slim & kind. Are you under 52, very attractive, passionate, romantic, slim & giving. If so I would love to meet you. Genuine. Photo please, you won't get it back. Please reply to Box No 5395

CROCODILE Dundee 39? You are elegant, discerning, beautiful, 25-35, in need of some rescue from city ennui by tender Englishman, 41, kind, professional and balanced. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 5417

CULTURAL Interests/degree. Fit, approaching 50, no-nonsense, yet hopeful gent seeks like minded lady. Any qualities considered, N.Yorks but possible. Reply to Box No 5367

DARK, handsome, educated, interesting and discreet gentleman 30's seeks wealthy, generous lady for discreet, hot and erotic love affair. Please reply to Box No 5438

DO you live in North London? Is it you? Prof man, late 40's, sophisticated, solvent, sincere, slim, attractive, loves life, has romantic soul. Snapshot secures swift satisfaction. Please Reply to Box No 5366

EAST Midlands professional gent 46 wishes to meet lady for genuine and caring relationship. Please reply with photo to Box No 5408

ELIGIBLE Berkshire bachelor seeks attractive romantic, 35-45, unattached, n/s lady to share wide interests with possible business venture. Please Reply to Box No 5444

FIRST edition printrun of one (1) 1940's male. Fair condition, magnifier included, classified under 'business/finance, offers. Recent photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 5316

FIT and active 'Guardian reader' of European origin in his 60's, build and muscular with GSOH, unattached coastal London resident seeks woman to spoil, cherish and share the ups and downs of life. Please Reply to Box No 5405

GENTLEMAN 56, tall, slim, n/s, caring and reflective habits, seeks lady in Severn Bridge area for friendship. Please Reply to Box No 5449

GOOD-LOOKING, good-natured, sociable, professional man 40, interested in languages, travel, arts, seeks slim attractive lady under 36 for genuine caring relationship. Please Reply to Box No 5465

IF you're a lively attractive lady, 35-45, who knows how to live a little and laugh a lot then this successful professional, 5'11", single-mans and solvent) would like to hear from you. Photo appreciated. Please reply to Box No 5381

KIND and unorthodox Englishman, 56, with interest in art seeks love of his life. Please Reply to Box No 5407

LONDON-GENEVA Gentleman, sophisticated, seeks cuddly, intelligent, tall, attractive lady, 40-50 for romance, fun, travel. Photo pls. Reply Box No 5391

GENTLEMEN

MALE Channel Island lover, (especially Alderney), also Scilles, Wight, Lundy, Scottish islands, Gibraltar etc. 34, seeks female, island love. Please Reply to Box No 5451

MALE 34, new to rambling, secure, thoughtful, caring, seeks female companion for walks. Also to share interests - inland waterways, fashionable archaeology, travel (UK & Overseas), islands, country pubs, London's heritage. Friendly, warm hearted personality and good sense of humour more important than appearance. London/Chiltern based - happy to travel. Reply to Box No 5450

MAINLY Perfect affectionate rational 34 seeks similar F bosomy young or 50. Box 5464

ME Lawyer mide 36 seeks attractive intelligent female for serious romance and loving relationship. Box No 5307

O.K., I give up! Where are you hiding? Attractive lady seeks elegant, slim, financially co-ajlist, n/s, early 30's, for happy landlocked life. Photo plse. Please reply to Box No 5396

PROFESSIONAL bachelor, 30, educated professional, sophisticated bread, broad, travelled, many varied interests both in and outdoors, seeks intelligent woman with matching GSOH to share a spontaneous and loving future. Photo appreciated. Please reply to Box No 5448

PROFESSIONAL graduate male early 30's, 6'4" blue, kind, humourous, with wide interests, would love to meet warm, intelligent female for lasting relationship. Box No 5448.

PROFESSIONAL - Man seeks companionable Christian woman aged 35 plus in the Manchester or North West areas. Reply Box No 5292

PROFESSIONAL man 41 bonvivant loves France, social events, seeks lady for friendship perhaps more. Surrey/London. Box No 5409

PUBLIC School educated female sought by single, 5'4, for riverside walks, fireside evenings in country pubs, trying new foods and exploring Britain and beyond. London area. Please reply to Box No 5483

PUNCH Englishman, 44, with impressive credentials, recently settled in London - seeks pretty woman for marriage & children. Reply to Box No 5477

SUGAR - DADDY asks for a pretty girl, smoking French, wishing to spend weekends or holidays in Paris. Please reply for Box Number TT 85, The Times, 8 rue Halevy, 75009 Paris, France.

TALL, attractive, solvent 39 yr old male seeks discerning and alluring woman to share good times and bed. Devon area. Photo please to Box No 5328

TALL slim professional 46 looks younger interests gliding opera country pursuits sense warm witty and educated female for friendship and who knows what. Birmingham. Box 6380

THIRTY-SOMETHING professional wishes to meet that special lady to share the good things in life with. Intelligent, amusing, attractive and passionate and above all, n/s. Box No 5398

UNCONFIRMED bachelor, 30, educated professional, sophisticated bread, broad, travelled, many varied interests both in and outdoors, seeks intelligent woman with matching GSOH to share a spontaneous and loving future. Photo appreciated. Please reply to Box No 5448

WELL groomed ex-navy officer, 6ft, c/fit, GSOH, enjoys theatre, music, sport, seeks slim elegant lady 40+ to share mutual interests and TLC. SE Eng. Please Reply to Box No 5426.

WORLD travelling successful executive is glamorous, exciting industry, 39, fit and attractive and is tired of playing if that special lady is in his life. Photograph and telephone number. Please Reply to Box No 5467

YACHTMASTER/Celestial Navigator, non-atheist, without regret. Single yachtswoman, athletic with smart, lithe, arts, ethics, joy. Post mid-age. Reply in confidence Box 5490.

YOUTHFUL 60's widower wishes to meet fashionably dressed NS lady East Midlands area. Reply to Box No 5415

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Glories of the long good buy

Portobello Road market sells everything under the sun — or rain or hail, **Joseph Connolly** reports

By this morning the thousands who are addicted to Portobello Road in west London — claimed to be the ngest, most famous and rtainly the most colourful reet market in the country — ill be chafing at the bit. The arket is renowned for crank-g up at an ungodly hour am? 5am? — I have never ad the courage or the will to ik) each and every Saturday orning come hail, snow-orm, blizzard or hangover. ut this winter both Christ-as and New Year's Day fell 1 a Saturday, and although st weekend a hardy and edicated corps of dealers — eary of eye and aving their umping heads determined to ade in 1994 just urs after the ar was under ay, most decid-that whatever ew Year's morn as for, fumbling ound at dawn th frozen *objets rt* was not it. But today, lose time. Dealers have had a ree-week break, collectors d the dealers who live off ner dealers will be salivating be back, keen to replenish cks as well as to rope in ne money to pay for all se festive excesses.

Old hands will need no roduction to the glories of tobello Road, but for any-e who has merely heard the her romantic appellation has never experienced the ulity, a treat is in store. You not even have to spend any money: most do not — they just come along for the show. Those who do spend, however, spend fairly prodigally; the market has sailed through the recession with barely a backward glance.

Whatever your interests, they will be catered for in Portobello Road. The road itself is endless — starting at the posh end of Chepstow Villas, Notting Hill, and terminating at Goldborne Road. Moreover, the market takes in not just the street stalls that you would expect, but an endless succession of covered arcades and mini antiques emporia that form the core of the pretty, bright pastel-painted 19th-century terraces that sparkle like cassata above the good-natured hubbub of the teeming market below. The fun spills sideways too into such streets as *Westbourne* Grove — in itself a major source of *knicks, knacks* and you-name-it — and everywhere the general *carnival feel reigns supreme: it* is rather like Carnaby Street ought to have been, but — even *in the 1960s* — never was.

> It is like Carnaby Street ought to have been

Start at the Notting Hill end (but be warned, there is virtually no parking space anywhere) and be guided by the crowds. The first few stalls are tourist traps, naturally enough — Ye Olde Britishe Inn signs, pub towels, fake Beatle badges and the most sickly chocolate popcorn you have ever inhaled — but soon enough you are into the heart of the matter: arcades beckoning on all sides, overflowing stalls of old jewellery, vast Victorian kitchen equipment, parasols, 1930s Mickey Mouse watches, vintage pens, metronomes — and *silver*.

Silver is a clear favourite. There is beautifully burnished brass and copper, to be sure, *as well as bronze and tinware* — but silver rules the roost. Most popular seem to be urn-shaped wine coolers and carving sets, although also prominent are silver-topped *canes and dazzling displays of* magnifying glasses fashioned from the stumps of defunct but *grandiose cutlery*.

By now you will have encountered five or six Bob Dylans wailing away, and a few ingenious oriental puppeteers. The children's favourite is an apple-cheeked organ-grinder who always contrives to have about her an abundance of puppies, never more than a few weeks old — not for sale, just for caressing.

As to prices and values — well, most of the traders are specialists in a single field, so an out-and-out steal is unlikely, but many antiques dealers with shops in upmarket areas buy from Portobello Road, and so prices tend to be more reasonable than you would expect (the earlier you arrive, the better) — and everyone will be around the following week if there are any worries; no-fly-by-nights here.

Just how many specialists there are takes your breath away — *not just in the fields* you would expect, such as books, arts deco and nouveau, *cameras, clocks, furniture*, ceramics, glass, jewellery, paintings, engravings and so on, *but also in such arcane avenues* as model steam-engines, buttons, lighters, pharmaceutical *bottles, matchboxes*, and even jelly moulds. Truly, if the world of old stuff intrigues you at all, an early visit to Portobello Road will repay itself — with interest.

● *Nearest tube: Notting Hill Gate (Central, Circle and District lines). Buses: 7, 12, 23, 27, 52, 88.*

Half a dozen things you didn't know about Portobello Road market

1. It stands on the land of the 18th-century Portobello Farm, named after Admiral Vernon's capture of the city of Puerto Bello in the Gulf of Mexico.
2. The original market (only fruit and vegetables) began in 1822.
3. The first antique shop opened at No 165 in 1939.
4. In 1961, of 200 stallholders, just 35 dealt in antiques.
5. Today — including the covered arcades — there are more than 2,000 antique dealers.
6. The dealers horse-trade from 5am to 6.30am. Collectors arrive at 8.30am, tourists between 10 and 11am.



MARTIN BEDDALL

The cosmopolitan bustle of Portobello Road is in full swing by the middle of Saturday morning, although the dealers start horse-trading as early as 5am

Saleroom guide

☐ The art-market year has already begun in the ballroom of the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, London W1 (information: 0277 362662), where antiques and fine art estimated at £20 million are on offer by 50 dealers. *Highlights include* a £300,000 manuscript of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, hand-written and illustrated by the famous illuminator of the early 1900s, Alberto Sangorski. For those with more humble budgets, prices start at £10.

☐ Still on the theme of great British book illustrations, three original Peter Rabbit drawings by the renowned children's author Beatrix Potter will be on offer (estimate £300-£500) on Wednesday at Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton *Road, London SW7 (071-581* 7611), while a sheet of studies for that other Beatrix Potter master work *The Pie and the Patty Pan* are expected to fetch £800-£1,200. Also for sale will be mementoes from the dawn of today's multimillion pound Beatrix Potter marketing industry. A 1910 patent certificate for the manufacture of Jemima Puddleduck as a soft toy is offered at up to £300 with three photographs of the toy's prototype thrown in. Buyers need have no doubt about authentic*ity, as they are being offered by* a Potter family member.

☐ The biggest money-spinner on Wednesday should be a drawing of the Madonna and Child which spent many years pinned to the back of a kitchen door in a Birmingham council house. Having noticed its quality, *a director of Halls Fine Art*, the Shrewsbury auctioneers, called in Sotheby's experts who duly identified it as a preparatory study for a major altar piece in Rome by the 17th-century baroque artist Carlo Maratta. Maddeningly, however, this British discovery story will have an American ending, *when Sotheby's sells it for an* estimated $35,000 in New York.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

2 Men and a Gavel.

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LUCINDA GREEN

Three-day eventer



Where would you go?
To Courchevel for two days' skiing, because I haven't been there before. I started skiing four years ago and I love it.

Who would be your perfect companion?
A fantasy man — who I hope will exist one day. He would be amazingly funny and incredibly kind. He would also be able to ski really well and enjoy teaching me.

How would you get there?
We'd fly to Paris on Thursday night and stay at the George V hotel off the Champs Elysées, where I have been once before. It is ridiculously expensive and I particularly like their bathrobes. We would take the whole of the next day to drive down to the Alps, stopping off for lunch at some hideaway place.

Where would you stay?
The most important thing about the hotel in Courchevel would be the *après ski. I don't mean parties*, but wonderful facilities such as a sauna, an outdoor hot tub under the mountains and a masseur.

What essential piece of clothing or kit would you take?
Silk thermal underwear and ski glasses that don't fog up.

What medicines would accompany you?
Aspirin and four arnica tablets three times a day to waylay bruising.

What would you have to eat and drink?
An awful lot: when you ski you usually take off weight, so you can eat as much as you like. Lunch would be at a restaurant on the mountain. I'd have soup, French bread and cheese, and I can never resist a *Glühwein* or two. After coming off the mountain, we would stumble into a café for Ovaltine and a lovely chocolate something-or-other. After a snooze, we would drink champagne with a dinner of snails and *raclette*.

Which books would you take to read?
When am I going to get time to read a book?

***What music would you* listen to?**
Lightweight classical music such as Handel and Strauss and soppy things like "Lady in Red" by Chris de Burgh.

What film would you watch?
Pretty Woman.

What luxury would you take?
Chocolate truffles.

What piece of art would you like to look at?
A sculpture by Rodin.

Who would be your least welcome guest?
My accountant, because I find it hard to follow any conversation on figures.

What three things would you leave behind?
Every single worry, English rain and the telephone.

***What would you most* like to do?**
I'm not telling you.

Who would you send a postcard to?
My children — eight-year-old Freddie and Lissa, four.

What souvenir would you bring home?
Well-cut sweatshirts for my children.

What would you like to find when you got home?
My children there to welcome me, and sunshine.

Interview by Rosanna Greenstreet

PETER TRIEVNOR



Playing from left, Loretta Burns, David and Susan Flusfeder and Robin Burns

Bridging a gap

Make friends, live well and play to kill on a bridge weekend

EVERY august institution should have a motto. My university's was "Be Still And Know". The Ace of Clubs in Finchley has gone for "Bridge in Luxury With Easy Parking". It may not have any fancy mystical overtones and it certainly doesn't help with the getting of wisdom, but it is a frank formula that brings in the punters.

The club was started by Loretta Burns three and a half years ago. Her children had grown and left home. Bored, she decided she wanted to run a business. While working out what sort of business she wanted, she took some bridge lessons. (Her suave husband Robin, a stockbroker, used to play for two hours every *afternoon.*) "I realised there was a gap in the market," she says. Bridge in luxury with easy parking *was born.*

The Ace of Clubs satisfies the tastes of bridge players who want the serious duplicate action (Wednesday nights at the Finchley headquarters, under the benevolent overseeing of referee John Harper from the English Bridge Union). It employs bridge internationals Neil Rosen and *Dick Shek to teach new play*ers the moves and old players some new wrinkles. They achieve the difficult trick of presenting information that helps the experienced as well as the novice. And for players who want the action of social bridge on a luxury jaunt, it organises bridge weekends and holidays.

I joined the party for its weekend at Goodwood. It began with Friday night bridge and dinner, and it ended with Sunday afternoon prizegiving (a very important feature, stresses Mrs Burns: "People *love* to get trophies"). This had been billed as a bridge, golf and tennis weekend. The weather overpowered the tennis players but the golfers did their thing on Saturday and Sunday mornings. The rest of the time — interrupted only by sleep, food and the fire alarm — there was the quiet frenzy that happens whenever bridge players in *neat multiples* of four get together in a room.

A lot of single people go on the bridge *holidays, mostly* female divorcees and widows, as well as some unmarrieds and a few couples risking it by playing with each other in public. Syd and Joe were the only widowers. (Both are in the garment business and joined the Ace of Clubs after their wives had died. They are now cannily skilful players, firm new friends, and bridge holiday regulars.)

Then there was Patsy, who *drives a white Mercedes* sports car with personalised plates and was named Businesswoman of the Year 1993 for her dog insurance company. She has known Mrs Burns since they were teenage girls growing up in St John's Wood together.

Mrs Burns took warm charge of her guests. There were a few minor ructions — a temporary falling out between one lady and her three friends, which Mrs Burns chivvied back into friendship; a skir*mish between a married* couple ("In a casino that would have been very good. *Not bridge,*" tsked the urbane continental man to his unrepentant wife, who struck back later by criticising *him for* playing too quickly — he "does everything too quickly and not thoroughly", she announced). The two bachelor brothers argued while they played but made it up later on the golf course.

Then there was the drama of the fire alarm when the first night's sleep was broken at three in the morning and everybody gathered shivering in the courtyard.

There was a trophy for almost everybody — high individual scorers, high team scorers, best golfer (won by one of the bachelor brothers), as well as a trophy for every pair who bid and made a slam. The winners were clapped to the front of the room, where they got to kiss Mrs Burns and pose proudly for photographs. Afterwards some of the couples went home and some of the ladies *went to the bar, and a few* stragglers stayed in the room eyeing the cardboard box that still had a few trophies left inside.

DAVID FLUSFEDER



What the papers said: **Derwent May**'s bookbuyers' guide

5/5 Pleasure ratings are awarded to a maximum of five. Column centimetres indicate the length of reviews to date in national broadsheet newspapers.



3/5 Matisserie anglaise: A. S. Byatt is the first writer to hit the 1994 headlines, with *The Matisse Stories* (Chatto, £9.99) — three short stories, each involving a painting by the colourful French post-impressionist. "Like Matisse," said Helen Dunmore in *The Observer*, "she is excited by the way a vase of flowers, a white book or a human being stands in the stream of everyday light, and like Matisse she knows how to put down her observations." The book "hits the imagination's retina with all the vibrant splatter of an exploding paintbox", confirmed Peter Kemp in *The Sunday Times*. However, he found that the stories lacked "emotional or psychological depth — instead, they sparkle with a meditative *joie de vivre*".

In *The Times*, Victoria Glendinning said that, whereas Byatt's novels dwell on the importance of "the life of the mind", these stories "stress the parallel glory of the life of the senses". The recipe for society that the stories offered seemed to be "more *luxe, calme* and *volupté* for intellectuals and the politically correct — and more mental discipline for the rest". *Col cms: 144*

4/5 Merry Lewis? Anthony Burgess, in one of the last articles he wrote, declared in *The Observer* that "Norman Lewis's prose is almost edible. In old age, the doyen of English travel writers is writing better than ever." He was reviewing *An Empire of the East* (Cape, £16.99), an account by the 85-year-old wanderer *of his visit to Indonesia. In The Daily Telegraph* Ian Thomson hailed Lewis as being "among the great comic writers of our time", although "there is real horror in the blood-letting that followed Indonesia's annexation of East Timor in 1975", and here Lewis "subdues his own voice in favour of clear, objective reportage". In *The Independent on Sunday*, Katie Hickman thought that the book's tone was sometimes "more than a little weary" — but that was "no wonder" considering all the bloodshed he had witnessed. She hoped this book might cause a similar outcry to the one produced by his revelations of atrocities in Brazil. *Col cms: 206*

3/5 Mother of the arts: Lord Gowrie's mother, Pamela Cooper, has produced her life story, *A Cloud of Forgetting* (Quartet, £19.95) — from Edwardian delights to war-torn Beirut. "Not for people who dislike hunting and name-dropping," said Sarah Bradbury in *The Spectator*, "but an enjoyable read". *Col cms: 72*

Heather Kirby meets the family that believes togetherness grows on the greens and fairways of the golf course

Playing a round of happy families

"WE HAVE found golf one of the most unifying factors of family life." Norman Hampel, a personnel management recruitment consultant during office hours and an enthusiastic golfer the rest of the time, is adamant: the family that plays together, stays together. His wife, Sarah, agrees. "Golf is a tremendous way of being with your family, and all their friends, and the good thing is it doesn't matter how bad you are. Because of the handicap system which levels it out, everyone can play together regardless of their age or skill."

The Hampels have four children, Simon, 25, John, 23, Nicola, 22 and Angus, 20, but they represent only a fraction of the Hampel clan. "I have two brothers and we all have three sons and a daughter and we all play together when we can," Mr Hampel says.

If their busy lifestyles make a game of weekend golf difficult to organise, the Sussex, Norfolk and Buckinghamshire Hampels meet at least once a year, when they go for a golfing holiday at Trevose, north Cornwall, a migration that has become a clan ritual. No matter where in the world they happen to be — the Sussex Hampel is chairman of a division of ICI, one niece is a nurse in Uganda, a nephew flies the globe managing golfer Ian Woosnam — the Cornish pilgrimage is now sacrosanct.

"Golf has provided us parents with an opportunity to let all the cousins get to know each other well, and it gives us a way of keeping everyone in contact," Mr Hampel says. "Now they bring their boyfriends and girlfriends with them to Cornwall too, and, even if their friends are hopeless at the game, they get dragged on to the course and in the end love it.

"I know a lot of people who go to exotic places or who have villas in Spain and France, but they envy us our golfing holiday. The joy is that as a family you become closer because you play a game together, and what is tremendous is that we are treated like friends rather than parents. We have never been the kind to put oldies at one table and youngsters at another, and because the generations can mix at golf — a 70-year-old can play with an eight-year-old — that makes it all the more fun."

In Cornwall the clan plays once and sometimes twice a day, and if anyone doesn't feel like golf, there is generally a game of Scrabble or bridge going. "We also have beach barbecues, and gentle discos," Mr Hampel adds. "Golf is great for socialising. Often you lose your children and can find yourself at lunchtime feeding children you've never seen before, but you know another family will be feeding yours, so that's all right.

"Golfers seem to move around in herds, so when the children are playing locally you can discover anything up to 16 of them descending on your home. Luckily I and my two brothers have wives who seem to be able to cope with feeding a horde of people on a shoestring, and at a moment's notice."

There are 2,500 golf clubs in the UK with approximately one million registered members; a further million pay and play at municipal courses. The price of membership ranges from a modest £200 a year to, say, Wentworth, Surrey, one of the country's top golf clubs, where a year's membership costs £2,750, plus a £600 levy to spend on eating and drinking at the club house. The cost of equipment can be as little or as much as you want to pay. A junior set of bag and eight clubs is less than £100, and most golfers trade in their old clubs for new ones.

Christopher Plumridge, a spokesman for The Golf Foundation, the national body for the development of junior golf, says: "I started playing golf when I was six. It's like malaria, once you get bitten by the bug it stays with you.

"GOLF can be played in all weathers. They play in the Arctic with red balls, although you couldn't play in deep snow because the balls would disappear, but I can't remember being fed up about having to play in bad weather. I would have played every day if I'd been allowed to.

"I think a lot of parents choose golf for their children because it teaches them self reliance, independence, a capacity to abide by the rules. There is no opportunity for faking injury or conning referees, as in so many other sports. Also it isn't a gladiatorial contest, it's something that is between you, the course and the ball. And it's a game children can play on their own: they don't have to rely on other people turning up."

The Golf Foundation sponsors coaching for some 40,000 children a year in this country by paying half the tuition fees of professional golfers, who take groups of up to 30 children at a time. Mr Plumridge says: "It means each child can pay as little as 25p for an hour's tuition. Golf used to be regarded as an élitist, rich man's sport, but that is not true today."

According to Sarah Hampel, a golfing hobby need not overburden the family's finances.

"WE never bought the children new equipment; with so many cousins in the family there was rarely any need to. There were always hand-me-downs available, so they made do. Anyway, they rather liked to inherit something from an older cousin, and it taught them to share and to take care of clubs which they knew someone else would be able to use after them."

Norman and Sarah Hampel live near Denham golf course — "I'm sure my husband only married me because of my membership," Mrs Hampel says — where the professional, John Sheridan, has always encouraged young players. "The kids could go during the holidays for lessons at £1 a time. My friends sent their children, so they practised with each other.

"Even teeny ones can use a wooden club: I think Simon was just three when he got his first plastic club, and went round the garden trying to hit a ball. My father was a golfer but my brothers and I weren't. I took it up when the children did because I realised I would never see anybody otherwise, and I'm eternally glad I did. It has provided us with endless family fun."

● *The Golf Foundation is a charity which gets no government subsidy for its work with children; it relies on fund-raising and donations from golfers who support its efforts to bring more children into the game. For information about its coaching programme, write to Foundation House, Hanbury Manor, Ware, Herts SG12 0UH (0920 484044).*

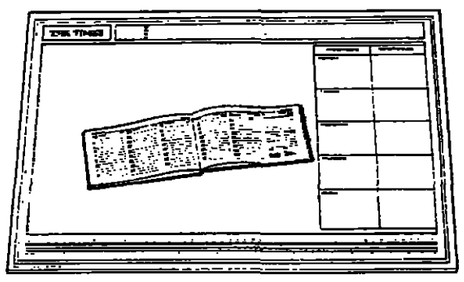
JAMES MORGAN



The golfing Hampels, from left, Katie Naylor (née Hampel), Anthony Orchard, Nicola Hampel, Simon Hampel, Norman Hampel, John Hampel with Rebecca Naylor on his shoulders, Sarah Hampel (née Orchard), Dominic Orchard, Jane Hampel, Angus Hampel, Ronnie Hampel with Rupert Naylor on his shoulders, Edward Orchard, Samara Hampel, Jack Naylor. The baby is Saskia Naylor, the dog is Karly

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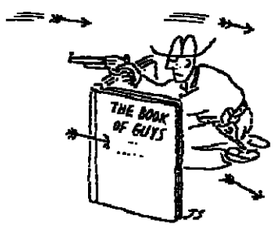
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THE LOCOMOTION
If you should find yourself in the leafy surrounds of Hampstead Heath in northwest London one Saturday, and you should come across a posse of two dozen adults walking backwards, you haven't accidentally trodden on life's rewind button, you are merely witnessing the new craze of "retro walking". This "power walking regime" is the brainchild of a chap called Terry Clarke of Healthshape Studio. Of course, the whole idea would smell more original if Network Southeast hadn't exploited the concept first.



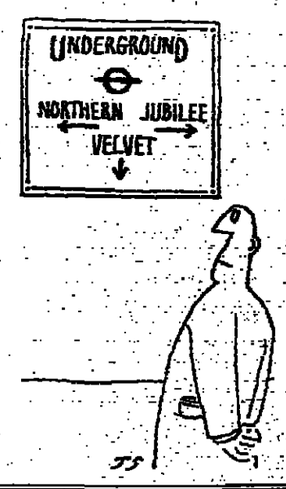
THE CHILD PSYCHOLOGY
You've never gotten around to ploughing your way through Freud, and now you don't have to. The latest in high-speed "teach yourself psychology" comes from Garrison Keillor in his newly-published tome, *The Book of Guys*. Keillor reckons that "girls had it better from the beginning. They were allowed to play in the house, where the books were and the adults, and boys were sent outdoors like livestock . . . Boys ran around in the yard with toy guns going kkssshh-kkssshh, fighting wars for made-up reasons and arguing about who was dead, while girls stayed inside and played with dolls, creating complex family groups and learning to solve problems through renegotiation and role-playing. Which gender is better equipped, on the whole, to live an adult life, would you guess?" And that'll be 80 guineas, thank you. Next?

THE ADVICE
A spankingly fresh suggestion to save the world lands in the postbag of advice columnist Ann Landers, extolling the virtues of nudism as a prescription for world peace and goodwill to all men. "Think of the time and energy, not to mention money, that would be saved if we didn't have to shop for clothes," writes Ann's ingenious correspondent. Even better, we could develop a way to hibernate like hedgehogs all winter, not only cutting fuel bills, but ensuring world peace, because we'd all be fast asleep.

MODES

SPOT THE CULT: TRUE OR FALSE?
A) Forget Coles Notes. Now you can also buy lecture notes, saving you the bother not only of reading *Hamlet* or *A Tale of Two Cities*, but even of attending the university lecture to hear what the Prof has to say about them. B) Got an insomniac dog? You can now buy special audio tapes with titles like *Doggy Lullabies* and *Reverie for Rover* to soothe him to sleep. C) Fashion-conscious trendies can now keep their heads warm in winter — without ruining their carefully sculpted hair-dos by wearing a hat — with a new heat-sensitive but invisible hairspray that warms your scalp the colder it gets.
Answers
A) True. Now on sale in America from brainy entrepreneurs with a gift for academic shorthand. Some professors are even taking royalties on sales of their boot-leg lectures. B) True. Tapes are also available for sleepless cats. C) False. Stick to a Homburg.

THE CLUB
New club, old name. Latest addition to Soho's night scene is Velvet Underground, a basement discotheque in Charing Cross Road. The walls, and even the ceiling, are hung with swoops of velvet. Perfect for recreating the feeling of being one of the Borrowers boogying inside one of those velvet-lined musical jewellery boxes.



THE KNOWALL
It's such a bore having to go all the way down to the pub just to learn some vital new piece of information, like the precise mating season for South American marmots, and whether the first foot on the moon was a right foot or a left foot. Now you can say goodbye to "lack of pub information misery" because LWT plans to bring pub quizzes to the television set in your living-room very soon. So, combining these with home shopping and pizza deliveries, there will soon be no reason to step outdoors, forcing American Express to change its card commercials slogan to say: "Don't stay home without it."

THE SINGALONG
Eager to join the pub singers, but too snooty to stoop to crooning "My Way" on the Karaoke machine? Then keep your eyes peeled for the latest in pub singalongs — Opera Karaoke. The strains of "Nessun Dorma" are already seeping out from London's swankier saloon bars, with Gilbert and Sullivan hits next in the pipeline. Call me when someone is brave enough, or mad enough, to get up and accompany *The Electrification of the Soviet Union*.

JOE JOSEPH

And the bride looked lovely in...

What sort of dress will the bride of '94 wear? Anything from virginal white to flamenco, Alicia Drake reports

Divorce rates in Britain may be at an all-time high, but weddings still take place, and the wedding dress remains sacred. The British female, notorious for her frugal clothing budget, spends an average of £880 on a bridal outfit for just one day. The most significant dress of her life, it represents the ultimate in self-expression, and a chance to indulge in pure fantasy.

For many that fantasy still takes shape as something long, white and flouncy, but there has been a move away from the "fairy princess" dress as brides demand a more sophisticated silhouette. This is partly because women are marrying later: the average age of brides has risen to 25, and with it their confidence and daring. Rosie Bennett, the bridal manager of Liberty's, says: "The big, girly look is out."

Instead, more brides are staging their weddings around a theme, and whether it be medieval, harvest festival or horse-riding, they want their dress to complement the total drama of the wedding. Sandra Boler, the editor of *Brides* magazine, says: "Nowadays every readers' letter starts with, 'I want my wedding to have the theme of . . . ' Brides are no longer satisfied with just walking into a shop with an empty mind; most have their hearts set on a certain style and want to stamp their own identity on the day."

Shops have responded by stocking dresses which bear influences of historic designs or fashion trends, yet except for the odd flash of tartan or sliver of black lace, most dresses still come only in symbolic white or ivory. For the bride who seeks individuality, the common solution is to find a designer or do it herself.

Charlotte Bently, an editorial assistant on *History Today*, wanted a wedding dress to reflect her enjoyment of history. She was frustrated by the choice in the shops and says: "I looked through hundreds of bridal magazines, which kept spouting 'this is your special day', yet everything in them was so familiar and conformed to strict social convention. There were lots of pretty, desirable dresses, but I didn't want to feel like a paper dolly with a wedding dress slotted on." Ms Bently studied Gainsborough portraits and worked with a designer to come up with a dress and jacket in eau de nil duchesse satin which had a romantic, 18th-century feel.

Another wedding dress with historic connotations is that of actress Alex Fiennes, who chose an extravagant medieval-style outfit of purple velvet, raw silk, gold organza and metalwork neck plate.

Colour was the deciding factor behind Stephanie Dale's choice of blue and cream flamenco dress. Aged 35, and having lived with her fiancé for some years, Ms Dale felt it inappropriate to walk up the aisle in white but, more importantly, she says: "It was a vanity thing: pale colours make me look washed out and I wanted to look like something out of *Gone with the Wind*."

After several disappointing shopping trips, Ms Dale flew to Seville and bought a dramatic flamenco dress which had the wedding congregation clapping in the aisles. She decided there must be other women who wanted more than what she calls "ye olde white wedding frock", so she has launched a wedding dress agency called Brighter Brides. Ms Dale aims to cater for "first and second marriages and brides of all ages who want a show-stopping dress, not necessarily white".

Before the late 18th century, brides were not bound by colour convention and, while white was popular, often wore blue, silver, gold, yellow or purple. Avril Hart, assistant curator of historical dress at the Victoria and Albert Museum, says: "White as the symbol of virginity started to be recognised in the mid-18th century, and the fashion for bridal veils began only in the 19th century with the ready availability of lace."

Today, the most common complaint about the wedding dress is the huge cost of the one-day wonder. Rebecca Maciejewska was determined that her outfit would be one she could wear again, so she chose an Edwardian-style, full-length coat in cream self-patterned silk with a colour embroidery border. She says: "I'd seen too many friends with white dresses that cost thousands of pounds and which, after one day's wear, ended life in a Cellophane coffin."

For Alex Abberton the solution was simple: she wore her mother's dress. A classy style in duchesse satin, the dress had lain dormant for 30 years but needed only a dry-clean and slight alteration.

Diane and Michael Jackson married in Mexico and returned to London for a Humanist blessing, which took place in the garden. Ms Jackson wanted a dress combining theatre with fun. "I wanted a look inspired by *Les Liaisons Dangéreuses*," she says, "but without looking like one of the ugly sisters."

Ms Jackson bought a corset that was two sizes too small and took it to designer Nicole Urbanski, who specialises in corsetry and who restretched it to fit and added the skirt of apricot silk organza and taffeta, stitching net saddlebags under the skirt and cloth sausages into the corset to exaggerate the silhouette and cleavage. Ms Jackson sported ringlets and a bouquet of cauliflowers, aubergines and carrots. Her husband, Michael, wore a tartan suit.

● **Wedding frock sales:** *Liberty, Regent Street, London W1 (071-734 1234), now to end Jan: cream Thai-silk Neil Cunningham "Forever England" Cinderella-style with roses overskirt, reduced from £1,300 to £300. Selfridges, Oxford Street, London W1 (071-629 1234), now to end Jan: Berketex dresses; 100 per cent ivory silk with lace and pearl bead bodice and sleeves, reduced from £1,495 to £1,121. Harrods, Knightsbridge, London SW1 (071-730 1234), now to Jan 29: Catherine Raynor "Louisa" Edwardian-style fitted bodice with rose detail on sleeves, reduced from £1,035 to £500.*











Top centre: Alex Fiennes wears a layered, medieval-style dress designed by Michelle Clapton, of 32 Reardon House, London E1 (071-481 9842). **Left:** Charlotte Bently in her eau de nil duchesse satin dress and jacket designed by Anna James, of Bramshott, Hampshire. **Above:** Stephanie Dale wears a navy blue flamenco dress with cream edging, from Brighter Brides, Long Newton, Tetbury, Gloucestershire (0666 505051). **Photographer:** Denzil McNeelance. **Stylist:** Alicia Drake. **Shot on location at the Great Conservatory, Syon Park, Middlesex (available for summer weddings, 081-560 0881). Flowers by Wild Bunch, 22 Earlham Street, London WC1.**

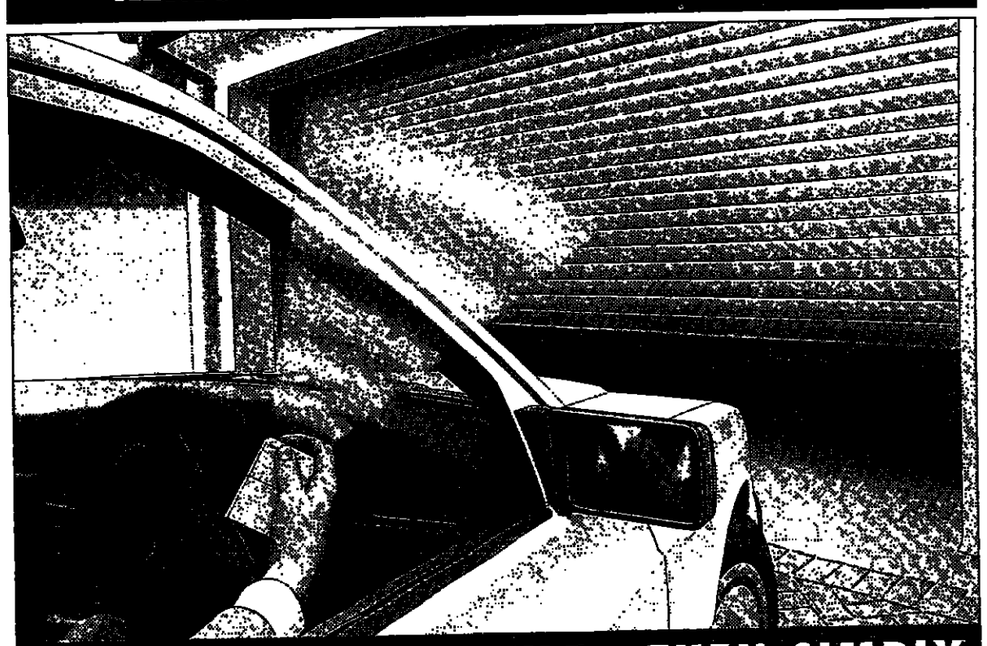


Above: Rebecca Maciejewska wears a cream, full-length, Edwardian-style coat and sheath dress designed by Briony Sergeant, of 20 Well Walk, London NW3 (071-435 0937). **Left:** Alex Abberton in her mother's cream duchesse satin dress with full-length veil. **Below:** Diane Jackson wears an apricot silk organza and taffeta dress, incorporating a ready-made corset, designed by Nicole Urbanski, of 1 Edburton Avenue, Brighton, Sussex (0273 5650270). Michael Jackson wears a tartan suit, designed by Nicole Urbanski, with his own hand-printed green silk lining.



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Praise with a Caribbean beat

In south London, **Ruth Gledhill** visits a pentecostal church for a joyous chorus of Gospel singing



THE young evangelist Carl Napier stood to address us. "If there is anyone sat here who does not know the Lord Jesus Christ, who had a terrible time in 1993, I am telling you there is hope in the Lord Jesus Christ. Life must go on," he said, raising his right hand in the air and bursting into an unaccompanied solo. "Blessed hope, blessed rest for our soul," he sang, lingering on the last word in a manner that inspired many of the congregation to raise their hands and join in.

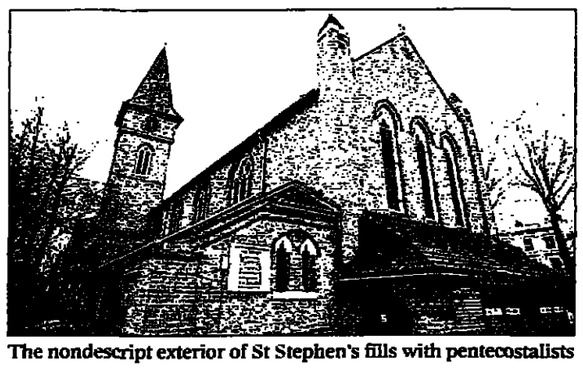
Unlike the predominantly white mainstream churches, black churches are growing rapidly in Britain. Many were founded after the Second World War by first or second-generation immigrants, who felt unwelcome in the mainstream churches. Members today include people of all ethnic origins. The Assemblies of the First Born Church just across Battersea Bridge in south London is one of a number of burgeoning black pentecostal churches in Britain. Taking its name from Hebrews xii, 23, "the full concourse and assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven", it was officially founded in 1961 in Derby, but the Rev Charles Wright, general overseer for the church in Britain and America, was holding weekly prayer meetings in Battersea as early as 1958. The four early churches have grown to 20, and six have been founded in America. The church boasts more than 118 ministers, evangelists, deacons, mothers — pastoral counsellors — and missionaries, and there are nearly 200 ordinary members at Battersea alone, plus dozens of children.

On entering I was given a copy of *Redemption Songs*, a collection of 1,000 hymns and choruses, but this was little help as many of the gospel-style songs which filled the next 90 minutes seemed either to be extemporised or known by heart by most of the people there.

JULIAN HERBERT



Gospel-singing from the choir of the Assemblies of the First Born, accompanied by young musicians on percussion and electric organ



The nondescript exterior of St Stephen's fills with pentecostalists

The Assemblies of the First Born, St Stephen's Church, Battersea Bridge Road and Kersley Street, London SW11 3AD (071-223 3099).

OVERSEER: The Rev Charles Wright.

SERMON: Difficult at times to follow, but in essence a long elucidation of why we should "praise the Lord", interspersed with many "Alleluias".★★★

ARCHITECTURE: Nondescript Victorian church.★

MUSIC: Enthusiastic gospel

The church appeared at first to be nothing out of the ordinary. But as musicians began warming up on the drums and electric organ, the building began to fill with enthusiastic pentecostalists, most of Jamaican origin but now living in southwest London.

Pastor Curtis Sinclair, a young minister, was in the pulpit in front of the chancel. We said alternate verses in a reading from Ephesians and he gave a brief homily. "Our society is going away from the principles that we have cherished over the years. But I am glad to know, brothers and sisters, there is hope yet. Praise the name of the Lord. Alleluia." Mr Sinclair continued: "They need God. Those who know Christ know that this is the answer for the world today. Praise the name of the Lord. Praise the name of God." Again the congregation followed, growing in ecstasy with each alleluia.

This was the cue for a woman in the congregation to break into song. "How great is our God," she began, her powerful voice lifting to the wooden rafters. The musicians picked up the melody and the congregation joined in.

We were invited to "worship the Lord with our offering", and the collection plate went around. A special collection was made for a new project, to provide food, blankets and clothing for the homeless in central London.

Mr Wright took over to preach. "Many people went to bed last night. They did not wake up this morning. But we did. Praise the name of the Lord," he said. "Do you believe that He can do great things?" he asked. "Yes," shouted his congregation.

Singing and dancing continued to the end, and outside the passers-by on their way to and from Chelsea quickened their steps in time to the Caribbean beat now emanating from within the otherwise unremarkable London stocks.

● *Sunday service: 11.30am to 1.30pm.*

VICES & VIRTUES

Edward Marriott persuades people in the public eye to confess their sins and celebrate their saving graces



TAKI
Columnist

1st Pride: In Greece pride is a good thing. You can never have enough pride. Pride stops you being a coward and stops you from grovelling. I would love to die a soldier's death. It's better to die like that than falling down the stairs and breaking your neck.

2nd Lust: My father was the most promiscuous man I know. I admire that. We're Greeks and when Greeks see a woman the only thing that goes through their minds is to bed her down. I'm 56, and I'm still hunting for women.

3rd Gluttony: My excellent butler always fixes me beautiful breakfasts. I'm way overweight. I want to eat all the time, especially after a long, drunken night.

4th Wrath: Two things make me angry — Americans, and people who give me cheap advice. I am polite and people take this for a weakness. I don't mind people telling me I shouldn't run around — that's meant well — but in America people are so badly mannered. In England people laugh, and they are polite.

5th Sloth: I lie in bed all day. I just lie around the house. I do three columns a week, the *New York Post*, the *Spectator* and *National Review*. It doesn't take long — I can do 1,200 words and then go to a party.

6th Envy: I admire young men, and envy them in the good sense of the word. I admire writers who have done very well.

7th Avarice: I have blown most of my money, giving it away to people. I'm not avaricious at all. You know why? Because my brother got it all. I gave him half of my money. Now, however, I want to get my money out of the family business and he doesn't want to let me. I will win.

1st Faith: I can think of nothing more horrible than to betray a friendship but I can think of nothing more boring than not to betray a woman. On the other hand we Greeks do not trade women in for the new models, we stick with the old ones. We are extremely faithful. I have also a great belief in God.

2nd Charity: Full of it. I don't believe in giving money to charity but I'm a nice person. I amuse everybody, play the clown. That's real charity.

3rd Fortitude: In the old days not trying was considered a virtue. The Spartans tried too hard. When I played tennis, I never used to try hard, but I would get very drunk the night before and that would be my in-built excuse for failing. I'm sure I could write better if I tried harder but I don't.

4th Justice: Can you think of anyone who doesn't believe in justice? I have a sense of justice until I come to something I don't like, then I lose all sense of justice. People are not just. They always see their own side and I'm as guilty as everyone else.

5th Hope: I have none — I'm a great pessimist. I always think I'm going to lose before I've started. You have to go into a fight thinking you're going to win, otherwise you lose.

6th Temperance: Drink makes everything so rosy. It's very corny to say so but it's true. Most drunks are nice people. Life is rather pathetic anyway and drunks are romantic people. They see life differently. I'm alcoholic. I can't go a day without a drink.

7th Prudence: It is a vice to be prudent, not to take chances, to be cautious. My father was the least prudent person I know and he is my hero.

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Dixie Nichols applauds the mischievous work of a master faker, and offers a few hints for beginners

Temple of a true deceiver

Dennis Severs's early Georgian house in Spitalfields is an Aladdin's cave of the faker's skill. For him, however, faking is no tawdry trick but a high art. When he wants to create something, he holds it in his mind's eye until he has achieved it. How he got there is not important: what matters is that the result should have balance, beauty and integrity.

Mr Severs works with passion and a touch of madness; he transports himself to the spirit of the age of what he is creating, he listens to music, he works by candlelight, and he plunges impatiently at what he wants, using anything to hand.

Two of the marvels to be found in his house could be copied by the would-be apprentice faker: his intricately carved wood festoons, and his Baroque plasterwork dripping with Rubenesque fruit. Visitors find the first above them at the end of the passage, just before they mount the stairs. It is a wreath of the most wonderfully crafted fruit, lit from beneath by a candle lantern whose guttering flame makes a theatre of shadows, multiplied by the candles carried by those who pass below.



"Plasterwork" fruit with more than a hint of greengrocer's plastic

The carved wood festoons heighten Mr Severs's evocation of a late 18th-century drawing-room, and are hung against dark blue-green panelling. The carving is so intricate it is as if real walnuts and hazelnuts had been used — which, of course, they have. It is an elaborate double bluff. We have all marvelled at Grinling Gibbons's lifelike carvings, so Mr Severs has capitalised on the fact that nut shells have the colour of wood, and has wired them to a chicken-wire frame and married them with occasional pieces of real wood carving to create sensational decorations.

The trick for attaching whole walnuts is to take a piece of wire, bend it into a fish hook and poke it in where the stalk was attached; when you pull the wire outwards the hook catches, so you can wire it into your festoon. Mr Severs has gilded some of the nuts to add a touch of exuberance.

The glorious fruit plasterwork is just as counterfeit. It is made from the hollow plastic fruit greengrocers use to decorate their shops. You need a piece of light wood to act as a base. Fix one piece of fruit securely (you can put a hot wire through it); all the others can be be fixed in place by using the flame of a cigarette lighter to fuse one with the next.

The spaces beneath can be filled in by poking in damp newspaper; or do as Mr Severs did in the passion of creation, take your shoes off and wedge your socks in.

Mr Severs then painted the whole confection with layers of white emulsion, adding another layer with soot worked into the paint, and water, which he dabbed into the crevices so that the relief is emphasised. Another way to achieve this is to rub the thing with screwed-up damp newspaper so that the print comes off.

● *When buying plastic fruit, be sure it is inherently fire-retardant by checking that it conforms to BS476 Class 1. A plastic fruit vine with about a dozen fruits costs from £3. Dennis Severs is at 18 Folgate Street, Spitalfields; visits by appointment (071-247 4013).*

MICHAEL POWELL



Dennis Severs in front of his intricately "carved" festoon, and (top) a National Trust paper border

NATIONAL TRUST

THE practice of faking things has acquired a bad name. Goodness knows why; the Georgians and Victorians were merrily addicted to the practice with their marbling, *trompe l'oeil*, Coade stone and pitch pine painted to look like stone.

The trick is not to swamp the house with your marvellous idea. You fake to amuse your visitors, to achieve grand effects which you couldn't otherwise afford, and to amuse yourself over a long wet weekend. Faking is a solitary, *mischievous pleasure. You trust* your eye only; it doesn't matter how something is achieved, you seek only the final effect.

Here is one faking possibility of mind-boggling simplicity which pleasingly combines an 18th-century decorative whim with the sly use of modern office technology. Create a print room by photocopying old prints and using paper cut out borders available by mail.

Borrow the prints — musical scores, old love letters, whatever you fancy — photocopy them, then experiment. Try aging them by brushing on cold tea, or varnish, or a sepia watercolour wash. Then cut out all the borders and flourishes that you will use to decorate your prints. Use Blu-Tack to try out the arrangement on the walls, and when all is ranged to your satisfaction, paste it down.

The print room treatment is good for those useless spaces like long corridors or meaningless lobbies, where there is no room to see pictures but you can stand close and peer at prints. If you do plan to paint the wall first I favour strong background colours such as an Italian pink, apple green or full blown golden yellow. The National Trust recommends simple pale background colours, or a stippled or lightly textured wallpaper, but then the Trust doesn't live dangerously.

● *The National Trust produces an A3 folder of four sheets of borders to cut out with good instructions (£7.99, with extra sheets at £1.99 each), from National Trust Enterprises Ltd, PO Box 101, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 8EA (0225 705676). Ornamenta produces complete room sets suitable for one big wall or a small room. They include instructions, cutting knife and Blu-Tack (£57.50 plus £3.75 P&P from Ornamenta Ltd, PO Box 784, London SW7 3TG, 071-584 3857).*

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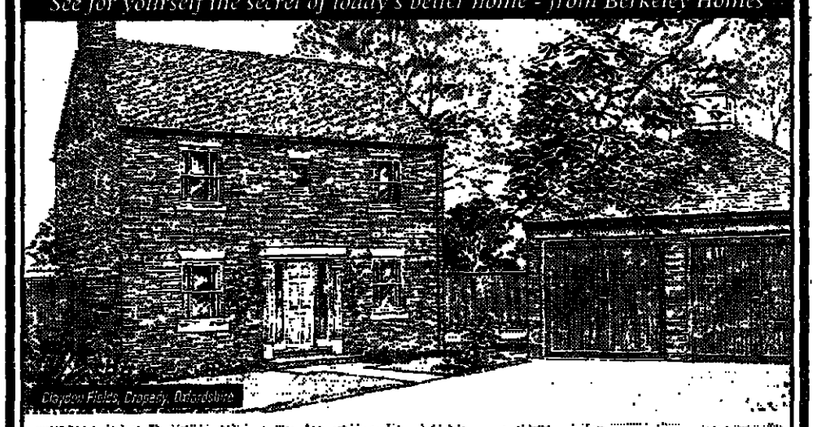
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Count your blessings

Mild winters have boosted the New Year flower count. **Francesca Greenoak** compares her plants to those in the famous Abbey Gardens on the island of Tresco

Taking a cue from the botanical gardens at La Mortola on the Italian Riviera (see far right), many British gardeners have started counting the number of flowers in their gardens at the turn of the year. Several successive mild winters have pushed totals into unheard-of numbers, but this winter's early frosts and subsequent dankness have not been good for flowers.

I have on my desk a posy of the creamy, tubular flowers of the robust little comfrey *(Symphytum tuberosum)* and a few brave violets, but the forward snowdrops which were in bloom last New Year's Eve are unforthcoming as yet. Even usually predictable flowers are holding back, so, for a bit of cheer, I tried the nearest thing Britain has to the Italian Riviera: the gardens on Tresco in the Isles of Scilly, 28 miles off Land's End.

The head gardener, Mike Nelhams, weighs in on the New Year's count with the advantage of a mild maritime climate and, mostly, the absence of frost. Augustus Smith, the founder of the Tresco gardens, left Ashlyns House in west Hertfordshire, only a few miles south of where I live, to create a splendid terraced garden on Tresco, at the site of a ruined Benedictine priory. He and his successors, the Dorrien Smiths, brought plants from all over the world to flourish within the seven hectares, sheltered by imported pine, cypress and eucalyptus.

There was a great January flowering in 1986 of nearly 300 different types of plant, but the freak frosts and numbing winds of the following year did huge damage. Fortunately, the devastation also opened up space which provided the opportunity for new developments. Some of the plants which were lost or damaged, such as the Norfolk Island Pine *(Araucaria excelsa)*, have been propagated from other international gardens, and cultivars new to the garden have been added, notably nearly 100 acacias and eucalyptus.

Acacias grow especially well on Tresco and are among the most prominent of those plants beginning to flower about New Year. *Acacia longifolia*, the Sydney Gold wattle, is particularly showy. Proteas are prominent among other Australian representatives. My favourite of these strange plants is *P. nerifolia*, which has smart, cone-like flowers composed of pale pink bracts neatly tipped with black, on a branch of greyish spoon-shaped leaves. Banksias, with an almost mathematical, triangular edging to their leaves, also have an other-worldly quality: the large *B. integrifolia* is a showy example of this genus, flowering now with its fist of yellow flowers.

In my conservatory is a *Sparmannia* plant with large, jagged green leaves like those of a lime tree in shape but soft with silvery hairs, and which has clusters of white flowers with massy gold and red stamens. I thought mine was doing rather well reaching almost to shoulder height, but on Tresco the same plant was 15ft tall.

My hardenbergia, just budding for bloom, contrasted meagerly with its Scillies counterpart, with its cascading, small purple pea-flowers over the dark pointed leaves. So long as they keep healthy, I approve of keeping plants such as these in pot — their winter-time flowers are such a pleasure, and it is rewarding to see them growing so amply in milder conditions.

Many trees and larger shrubs which have been part of the replacement programme on Tresco are too young to flower for a few years, although a *Virgilia capensis* (a slender leguminous tree), which has shot up to about 15ft from seed sown only four years ago, has produced its first creamy-yellow pea-like flowers. Mr Nelhams, poised for the New Year flower count, is confident of finding at least 150.

The main event is the stately progress of the largest agave in the garden towards a flowering of tree-like proportions, which it is reckoned will take place about May. This is a plant to watch; over the past five weeks alone it has grown about 12ft.

● *Tresco Abbey Gardens, Isles of Scilly TR24 0QC (0720 22849). Access from Penzance direct by helicopter (0736 63871), 20 minutes, or by ship (0736 62009), via St Mary's and launch, about three hours.*



The fast-growing agave is a plant to watch and will flower in May

WEEKEND TIPS

- *Dig over and fertilise empty beds and borders, incorporating garden compost and well-rotted manure.*
- *Inspect stored fruits and vegetables (especially potatoes) for decay.*
- *Continue pruning and tying-in raspberry canes, and canes of hybrid berries, taking them back to within two inches of the top of their support wire.*
- *Pot fuschia and geranium cuttings taken in the autumn.*
- *Prune overgrown laurels using secateurs or, if more severe cutting back is necessary, a curved gardening handsaw.*
- *Keep the compost of bulbs in pots moist but not waterlogged.*
- *Place pot plants away from radiators and keep them cool at night if possible.*

Vivian Russell's guide to the floral Mediterranean

Riches of the riviera

FOR plant lovers planning to holiday on the Italian or French riviera, the gardens in this list look good at any time of year, although March, April, May, June, September and October are the most exuberant months.

ITALIAN RIVIERA

☐ **La Mortola**
Cape Mortola, Ventimiglia (010 39 184 229507)
Winter: open from Oct 1, 10am-4pm; closed Wed. Summer: open daily from June 1, 9am-6pm. Guided visits by appointment.

☐ **Boccanegra**
Latte, Ventimiglia; contact Guido Placenza at his nursery, the Mini Arboretum, Biella, 13057 Pollone (010 39 15 61603)
The nursery has old-fashioned roses and an interesting list of plants. Open 9am-12.30pm and 2.30-6.30pm. Botanical groups may visit the garden by appointment.

FRENCH RIVIERA MENTON AND MONACO AREA

☐ **Jardin Exotique de Monaco**
62 Blvd du Jardin Exotique, 98002 Monte Carlo
Open daily: Jan 9am-5.30pm; Feb and March 9am-6pm; April 9am-6.30pm; May, June, July and Aug 9am-7pm; Sept 9am-6.30pm; Oct 9am-6pm; Nov 9am-5.30pm; Dec 9am-5pm.

☐ **Val Rahmeh Botanical Garden**
Museum of Natural History, Avenue St Jacques 06500 Menton (010 3393 35 8672)
Winter: open from Oct 1, 10am-noon and 2-5pm. Summer: open from May 1, 10am-noon and 5-6pm.

☐ **Serre de la Madone**
Route de Gorbio, 06500 Menton (010 33 93 50 28 17)
Visits by written request to the owner: Madame Rose Gredig, 57 Rue Grimaldi, Monaco.

☐ **Les Colombières**
Route des Colombières, Menton (010 33 93 35 71 90)
Telephone for guided visit of house and garden.

☐ **Fontana Rosa**
6 Avenue Blasco Ibañes, 06500 Menton
Visits by written request to: Jean Hubert Gilson, Mairie de Menton, BP 69 06502 Menton Cedex.

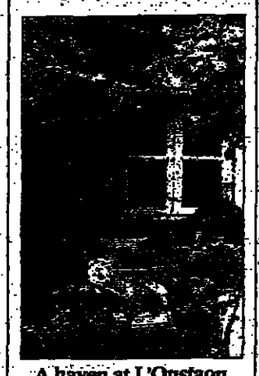
☐ **Villa Maria Serena**
21 Promenade Reine Astrid, 06500 Menton
Collection of tropical plants. Open Tues from 10am.

☐ **Parc du Pian**
Avenue Blasco Ibañez, Menton
Collection of more than 500 ancient olives. Public park open dawn to dusk.

☐ **Palais Carnoles**
Avenue de la Madone, Menton
Citrus collection. Madame Josiane Tricotti (010 33 92 10 33 66) organises guided visits around Menton's public gardens on behalf of the Mairie.

AROUND GRASSE

☐ **Villa Noailles**
59 Blvd Guy de Maupassant 06130 Grasse (010 33 93 36 07 77)
Open every Friday. Guided visits 10.30am and 2.30pm.



A haven at L'Oustaou

☐ **L'Oustaou des Baillea**
Chemin du Paradis Chemin du Bosquet, 06620 Bar Sur Loup (010 33 93 42 55 17)
Visits by appointment with Bruno Goris; Sundays in June. Old rose nursery.

☐ **Ile de France — Musée Rothschild**
Blvd Ephrussi de Rothschild 06230 St Jean Cap Ferrat (010 33 93 01 33 39)
Open Nov 1, Feb 15, 10am-5pm on weekends. Public and school holidays from Feb 15, 10am-6pm.

☐ **Villa Thuret**
Bouleward du Cap d'Antibes, 06604 Cap d'Antibes (010 33 93 67 88 66)
Interesting to botanists. Open 9am-6pm.

☐ **Les Collettes**
Haut de Cagnes, 06800 Cagnes sur Mer (010 33 93 20 61 07)
Auguste Renoir's garden. Closed Tues and from mid-Oct to mid-Nov. Open May 1 to mid-Oct, 10am-noon, 2-6pm; mid-Nov to April 30, 10am-noon, 2-5pm.

☐ **Château de Gourdon**
06620 Bar Sur Loup
Open from Oct 1, 2-6pm, closed Tues. Daily from June 1, 11am-1pm and 2-7pm.

☐ **Jardin Exotique Eze**
Rue du Château, 06620 Eze
Public park open 9am-noon and 2pm-dusk.

HYERES

The gardens of Edith Wharton and Charles de Noailles are in easy walking distance of each other and are well sign-posted. Parc St Bernard (010 33 94 35 90 00) is an exciting garden with a good collection of Mediterranean plants. Exhibitions are held in the house. Open from dawn-dusk. Castel Ste Claire is a public garden, open dawn-dusk.

MARSEILLES

☐ **Botanical garden of Marseilles**
Parc Borely, 62 Avenue Clot Bey, 13272 Marseilles (010 33 91 55 25 02 62)
Good for irises and roses. Tropical plants in the greenhouse.

THE ARRIERE PAYS AND PROVENCE

☐ **Jardin Alpin du Lautaret**
05220 Monetier les Bains, (010 33 76 51 46 00)
Spectacular setting. Open daily from June 25 to Sept 8, 10am-6.30pm. Guided visits on written request to the garden.

☐ **Château Val Joanis**
84120 Pertuis
Vineyard and potager. Buy the wine, smell the flowers. Visits all year by appointment with Catherine Chancel (010 33 90 79 20 77).

☐ **Château d'Ansouis**
84240 Ansouis
(010 33 90 09 82 70)
Open daily from Easter to end of Oct, 2.30-6pm. Closed on Tues in winter. Open to groups daily by appointment.

☐ **Château de Roussan**
Route de Tarascon, 13210 St Remy de Provence (010 33 90 92 11 63)
Open as a hotel.

☐ **Château d'Entrecasteaux**
83 Entrecasteaux, Var (010 33 94 04 43 95)
Also recommended is this beautifully restored castle, which often houses art and photography exhibitions.

● *Vivian Russell is the author of* Gardens of the Riviera *(Little, Brown, £25).*

NEXT WEEK: George Plumptre reveals details of The Times specially commissioned French show garden at this year's Spring Gardening Fair.

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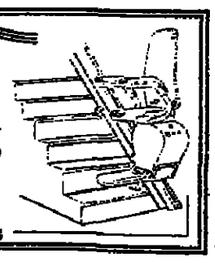
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FILMS

NEW RELEASES

CARLITO'S WAY (18): Can Al Pacino's gangster go straight? Lively ethnic-flavoured drama from Brian De Palma, with Sean Penn. **Empire** (071-497 9999) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE (15): Chen Kaige's Cannes prizewinner: a bumper bundle of dazzling visuals, Peking Opera, and Chinese history. With Leslie Cheung and Gong Li. **Chelsea Cinema** (071-351 3742) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Odeon Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Hill** (071-435 3366)

MALICE (15): Alec Baldwin's hot-shot doctor shatters Nicole Kidman and Bill Pullman's domestic bliss. Shallow, serpentine and stupefying thriller; director, Harold Becker. **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Marble Arch** (0426-914 501) **Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057) **West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

ALADDIN (U): Disney's brash Arabian cartoon does not match expectations, though Robin Williams' Genie is fun. Directors, John Musker, Ron Clements. **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

ANOTHER STAKEOUT (PG): Return visit of Richard Dreyfuss and Emilio Estevez's bantering cops: comedy and action for the easily pleased. Director, John Badham. **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

CENTURY (15): Stephen Poliakoff's muddled dissection of *science and morality* in turn-of-the-century London. With Clive Owen, Charles Dance, Miranda Richardson. **Camden Plaza** (071-485 2443) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0426 915353) **Kensington** (0426 914666)

DESPERATE REMEDIES (15): Airless, exhausting high camp from New Zealand. Stewart Main and Peter Wells direct. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

KING OF THE HILL (12): Astute and touching memoir of a Depression childhood, directed by Steven Soderbergh. With Jesse Bradford and *Jeroen Krabbé*. **Gate** (071-727 4043) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279)

MAC (18): John Turturro's refreshing, old-fashioned salute to the common man. **Metro** (071-437 0757) **MGM Panton Street** (071-930 0631) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772)

A PERFECT WORLD (15): Kevin Costner's criminal on the run *with a kidnapped child*, and Clint Eastwood in pursuit. Thoughtful drama. Eastwood also directs. **Barbican** (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

THE PIANO (15): Jane Campion's magnificent tale of repression and desire. With Holly Hunter, Sam Neill, Harvey Keitel. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)



Al Pacino as a reformed gangster in *Carlito's Way*

MENACE II SOCIETY (18): Drugs, sex and relentless violence in Los Angeles' black ghetto. Unedifying directing debut by 20-year-old twins, Allen and Albert Hughes. **Electric** (071-792 2020) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527)

SURVIVING DESIRE: Three elegant, crisp and airless shorts from American independent Hal Hartley, showing during the January season. "New York, No Picnic". **ICA** (071-930 3647)

CURRENT

ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES (PG): Overblown sequel, with good *stretches*. *With Raul Julia and* Anjelica Huston; director, Barry Sonnenfeld. **Empire** (071-497 9999) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

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THEATRE

LONDON

THE ABSENCE OF WAR: John Thaw stars in David Hare's study of the Labour Party. Brilliant, necessary, or unfair, depending on your point of view. **National** (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm, Mon, 7.15pm.

AN ABSOLUTE TURKEY: Felicity Kendal plays a harassed wife, Griff Rhys Jones a frantic bachelor, in Peter Hall's production of Feydeau's *Le Dindon*. **Globe**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

ANGELS IN AMERICA: Religion, sex, Aids, corrupt politics: a vision of America at the edge of disaster. Tony Kushner's award-winning *Millennium Approaches* is joined by its sequel *Perestroika*. **National** (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). *Millenium:* today, 1pm and Mon, 7pm. *Perestroika:* tonight and Tues, 7pm.

ANORAK OF FIRE: Return of Stephen Dinsdale's hilarious but also touching account of a train-spotter's obsession. **Arts**, Great Newport St, WC2 (071-836 2132). Tues-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 6pm.

ANOTHER SHORT HOUR: (London International Mime Festival) The well-praised Théâtre du Mouvement from Paris present 70 minutes of ingenious choreography and acrobatics. **Purcell Room**, South Bank Centre, SE1 (071-928 8800). Open Fri to Jan 17 (inc Sun), 8pm.

ASPECTS OF LOVE: Andrew Lloyd Webber now has six musicals running concurrently in the West End, as this one returns for a short revival. Not one of the best. ***Prince of Wales***, Coventry Street, WC2 (071-839 5972). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Until next Sat.

THE BELLS OF NOTRE DAME: Vince Foxall retells the Quasimodo story. **Warehouse**, Dingwall Road, East Croydon (081-680 4060). Tues-Sat, 8pm; mats Sat, 5pm.

THE BFG: Roald Dahl's *Big Friendly Giant* makes his seasonally festive call on London. **Albery**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon, 7pm; Tues-Fri, 2pm and 7pm; Sat, 11am, 2.30pm, 7pm. Until next Sat.

BREAKING THE BANK: Aptly costumed in paper, the Empty Space company arrive with their almost good play about John Law, the Scottish financier who promoted paper money in 1719 and bankrupted the French state. **Lyric Studio**, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 8701). Previews Wed and Thurs, 8pm. Opens Fri, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4.30pm. Until Feb 5.



Luke Williams stars in the play *Breaking the Bank*

THE CAVALCADERS: Another marvellous play from Billy Roche and set in a cobbler's shop. Dublin's Abbey Theatre production, directed by Robin Lefevre. **Royal Court**, Sloane Square SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until Feb 5.

CLAIR DE LUZ: (LIMF) Pete Brooks' insomniac Productions offer a performance recreating the 1950s world of *film noir*. **ICA Theatre**, The Mall, SW1 (071-930 3647), opens Thurs to next Sat, 8pm.

E.D.R: Opening production of the London International Mime Festival: the excellent Black Mime Theatre in a strong production on the emptiness of prison life. The initials stand for Earliest Date of Release. **Lilian Baylis**, Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-837 4104). Preview Mon, 7.45pm. Opens Tues, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm. Until Jan 29.



Caffi Pool above Benji Reid (left) and Michael Mannach-Daniels in Black Mime Theatre's *E.D.R.* (see Theatre)

KIT AND THE WIDOW: JANUARY SALE: Suave and stinging, the musical satirists pass comment on the social scene with their familiar skill. **Vaudeville**, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Opens Tues, 7pm. Then Tues-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat, 6pm and 8.30pm; Sun, 7.30pm.

THE PENETRATOR: Anthony Nielson's black, violent and bleakly witty study of two Edinburgh flatmates and an ex-army maniac. Co-production with the Finborough. **Theatre Upstairs**, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Preview Wed, 7.45. Opens Thurs, 7pm, Fri, 7pm, then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Until Jan 29.

SEPTEMBER TIDE: Daphne du Maurier's drama of inappropriate passion *arrives* in the West End again (last time 1948), from the King's Head. Susannah York plays the decent woman in love with her son-in-law. **Comedy**, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045). Previews from Tues, 8pm. Opens Jan 18, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

SWEENEY TODD: Declan Donnellan's superb staging of Sondheim's subtle, savage musical. Starring Denis Quilley and *Julia McKenzie*. **National** (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Today, 2pm and 7.30pm; Mon, 7.30pm.

WALLENSTEIN: Tim Albery's directing debut for the RSC in *Schiller's mighty drama* about power's capacity to corrupt. Ken Bones plays the great general. Final performances. **Pit**, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm.

REGIONAL

BRISTOL: Bath-based and internationally touring Natural Theatre Co with the first of this year's productions, *The End of Teddy Hedges*. Set backstage *on the Ealing Studios lot during* Coronation week, 1953. **New Vic**, King Street (0272 250250). Opens Thurs, 8pm, then Mon-Wed, 7.30pm; Thurs-Sat, 8pm. Until Jan 22.

MANCHESTER: Théâtre de Complicité *open their new touring* production *The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol*, adapted by Simon McBurney from John Berger's raw and violent love story spanning 70 years of the 20th century. **Dancehouse**, 10 Oxford Road (061-242 2555). Opens Wed to next Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

DANCE

TALES OF BEATRIX POTTER: A final outing for Ashton's ballet, originally choreographed for the film version. This stage adaptation features Jemima Puddleduck, Squirrel Nutkin and Jeremy Fisher, but Peter Rabbit makes only the briefest appearance. This evening the work is teamed with Balanchine's *Ballet Imperial*. **Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-240 1066), today, 2pm and 7pm.

MOSCOW CITY BALLET: This *Russian troupe, which has had many* tours over here, is installed at Sadler's Wells for a week-long season that features productions of *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake*. Expect mixed results **Sadler's Wells**, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071-278 8916). Mon to next Sat, 7.30pm, mats. Wed, next Sat, 2.30pm.

NUTCRACKER: Tchaikovsky's perennial Christmas favourite is given an excellent staging in Ben Stevenson's attractive production for English National Ballet. **Festival Hall**, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800). today, 2.30pm and 7.30pm, Mon to next Sat, 7.30pm, mats, Wed and next Sat, 2.30pm.

MUSIC

CLASSICAL

PLG YOUNG ARTISTS: As ever, the Park Lane Group offers its New Year series of chamber concerts in which outstanding young performers tackle a wide range of new music. This year's composers are Nicola Lefanu and Brian Elias. The lively programming includes premieres by Jonathan Dove, Hugh Wood and Gavin Thomas. **Purcell Room**, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), *tomorrow to Thurs, 6.30pm and* 8pm.

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: The period-performance experience of conductor Nicholas McGegan combines with the modern perspective of the CBSO in a programme of popular works by Handel (Concerto Grosso Op 3, No 2), Mozart (Piano Concerto in C, K503, with David Buechner), Vivaldi (Piccolo Concerto in C, RV443, with Andrew Lane) and Haydn (Symphony 102). **Symphony Hall**, Broad Street, Birmingham (021-212 3333). Wed, 7.30pm. **Royal Concert Hall**, Theatre Square, Nottingham (0602 482626). Thurs, 7.30pm

INTERNATIONAL SONGMAKERS: Julian Bense and Roman Terkel, two of the most highly praised singers from the 1993 Schubertiade Feldkirch (formerly Hohenems) appear at the Wigmore Hall in a Schubert programme devised by Graham Johnson, who also accompanies. **Wigmore Hall**, Wigmore Street, London W1 (071-935 2141). Thurs, 7.30pm.

OPERA

L'ORFEO: Lina Lalandi's pioneering English Bach Festival, whose commitment to period opera performance embraces the practicalities of Baroque stagecraft as well as the details of musical style, brings its historical approach to bear on Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo*. Financial difficulties mean that this single performance at Covent Garden could turn out to be the festival's final project. **Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-240 1066/1911), tomorrow, 7pm.

XERXES: Nicholas Hytner's delightfully stylish 1985 production, undoubtedly one of the most effective Handel stagings of recent years, is revived for ENO by Julia Hollander. Ivor Bolton conducts a strong cast which includes Louise Winter in the title role, Yvonne Kenny, Christopher Robson, Lesley Garrett and Jean Rigby. **Collseum**, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161). Fri, 7pm.

LA TRAVIATA: François Rochaix's 1985 production of Verdi's opera returns to Opera North after an absence of more than three years. Michal Shamir sings Violetta; David Maxwell Anderson is Alfredo; Peter Sidhom, Germont *père*. Jean-Yves Ossonce conducts **Grand Theatre**, 46 New Briggate, Leeds (0532 459951/440971), tonight, Fri, 7.15pm.

ROCK

STING: The crooner whose *Ten Summoner's Tales* revealed a new lightheartedness, continues his series of gigs. **Cardiff**, International Arena (0222 234500), today, 6.30pm. **Sheffield**, Arena (0742 565656), *tomorrow, 6pm*. **London**, Albert Hall (071-589 8212), Tues to Fri, 8.45pm.

S*M*A*S*H. Expect enthusiastic, raucous punk from this fun new British band now on an extensive tour. **Sunderland**, Bluebernes (091-510 1519), Tues, 8pm. **Edinburgh**, Subway (031-225 6766), Wed, 9pm. **Middlesborough**, Arena (0642 251854), Fri, 8pm.

JAZZ

HARRY BECKETT QUARTET: The Barbadian trumpeter and pianist offers a wide range of music from lyrical, summery jazz to fiery be-bop. **Vortex**, London N16 (071-254 6516), Thurs, 6pm.

TRIBUTE TO THELONIOUS MONK: *Trevor Watkiss (piano)*, Byron Wallen (trumpet), Brian Edwards (alto sax), Wayne Batchelor (bass) and Richard Lucock (drums) pay homage to the great pianist and composer. **Jazz Café**, London NW1 (071-*916 6000*), Tues, *7pm*

BOOKING

NORTHERN BALLET THEATRE. Artistic director Christopher Gable's flare for the dramatic pays off with the spring production of *Romeo and Juliet*. Also on offer are *Simple Man*, based on the life of artist L.S. Lowry, and Gable's unorthodox version of *Cinderella*, premiered in October of last year. A selection of dates from the tour are: **Leeds**, Grand (0532 459351/440971), Mar 1-5; **Blackpool**, Grand (0253 28372), Mar29-Apr2; **Liverpool**, Empire (051-709 1555), Apr 12-16; **Cardiff**, New Theatre (0222 394844), May 3-7, **Manchester**, Palace (061-236 9922), May 31-Jun 4; **Glasgow**, Theatre Royal (041-332 9000), Jun 7-11; **Cheltenham**, Everyman (0242 572573), Jul 12-16.

EXHIBITIONS

LONDON

THE UNKNOWN MODIGLIANI: Between 1906 and 1914 Modigliani's doctor and close friend Paul Alexandre saved every last fragment of preparatory drawing for his important paintings and sculptures of the time. Some of the drawings are famous, but most of the collection has never been publicly exhibited before. The show offers a unique insight into the creative processes of one of the 20th century's most significant artists **Royal Academy of Arts**, Piccadilly, W1 (071-439 7438), daily 10am-6pm, opens Fri to Apr 4

JOHN MINTON. The painter and designer John Minton (1917-57) was a leading figure among the so-called Neo-Romantic school of English artists who mostly came to prominence during the Second World War. His crabbed and tightly plotted drawings have often been regarded as the cream of his work. This retrospective offers an opportunity to reassess his paintings in the context of the whole of his career **Royal College of Art**, Kensington Gore, SW7 (071-584 5020), Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm, opens Tues to Feb 9.

ALL HUMAN LIFE: The Hulton Deutsch Collection of photographs originated in the *Picture Post* magazine archive, but over the years it has absorbed many other picture-sources. This exhibition, of about 500 images, includes many of the best news and documentary photographs of the last half-century. While human *interest predominates, the final* section deals with the new video technology of picture access and storage. **Barbican Art Gallery**, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 4141), Mon, Wed-Sat, 10am-6.45pm, Tues, 10am-5.45pm, Sun, midday-6.45pm, opens Thurs to Apr 24.

DEMON OF PAINTING: Japanese painter Kawanabe Kyōsai (1831-89) trained in the traditional style but soon broke away into boldly satirical (particularly anti-war work) This is the first extensive showing of his art outside Japan. **British Museum**, Great Russell Street, WC1 (071-636 1555). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, Sun, 2.30-6.00pm, until Feb 13.

THE PORTRAIT NOW: This show brings up to date the 1978 show "20th Century Portraits", and is international in its coverage **National Portrait Gallery**, St Martin's Place, WC2 (071-306 0055). Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm, Sun 12-6pm, until Feb 6

REGIONAL

JOHN MOORES LIVERPOOL EXHIBITION 18 The most regularly distinguished of open competitive shows outside London this year highlights a return to figurative painting. **Walker Art Gallery**, William Brown Street, Liverpool (051-207 0001). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, Sun, midday-5pm, until Jan 23

CANALETTO AND ENGLAND: Last chance to see this large show **Gas Hall**, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham (021-235 1966 booking advisable). Daily, 10am-6pm (last admission 5.30pm), until tomorrow

NEW VIDEOS

FACES (Electric, 15). John Cassavetes's lacerating study of a marriage break-up the powerful acting throws you right into the maelstrom (1968)



Helena Bergstrom from Nutley's *House of Angels*

HOUSE OF ANGELS (Curzon 15). Liberated newcomers upset the calm of a Swedish village Humane comedy from British-born director Colin Nutley: a smash hit in Sweden. With Helena Bergstrom 1992.

NIGHT ON EARTH (Electric, 15): Five tragi-comic encounters in five night-time taxis across Europe and the States. Uneven but amiable compendium from Jim Jarmusch, with a cast list stretching from Roberto Benigni and Beatrice Dalle to Winona Ryder 1991

LE SAMURAI (Artificial Eye, PG) Jean-Pierre Melville's superb, stylised gangster drama of 1967 charts the downfall of an icy, solitary hired killer (Alain Delon).

Film: Geoff Brown; **Theatre:** Jeremy Kingston; **Classical Music and Opera:** Gwen Hughes; **Rock and Jazz:** Stephanie Osborne, **Dance:** Debra Craine; **Exhibitions:** John Russell Taylor; **New Videos:** Geoff Brown; **Booking:** Kris Anderson

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 16

ABLUDE
(c) To *differ*, be *out* of keeping, from the Latin *abludere* to be unharmonious, differ from, *ab* away from + *ludere* to play, eg originally on an instrument, but transferred to mean being out of tune in other matters than music "The wise advice of our Seneca (not much abluding from the counsell of that blessed Apostle)."

BLUEISM
(a) Male put-down of a clever woman, the characteristics of a "blue" or "blue-stocking", feminine learning or pedantry, from blue-stockings: "He had fallen a victim to her beauty and blueism."

VERVET
(c) A species of monkey (*Cercopithecus pygerythrus* or *Cercopithecus lalandii*), native to various parts of Africa: "The fur of the vervet is of a greyish-green colour."

WHILLYWHA
(c) A wheedling or insinuating person, a flattering deceiver. Scottish and Northern dialect, of obscure origin: Walter Scott, *Redgauntlet*, 1824: "He's a whillywha body and has a playsible tongue of his own."

ENTERTAINMENTS

THEATRES

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ENTERTAINMENTS
Also appears on Page 15



Jimmy Porter speaks for an alienated generation in the original Royal Court Theatre production of John Osborne's seminal play, *Look Back in Anger*, in 1956

A look at the present, in anger

Whatever happened to dissent?

Peter Barnard bemoans the lack of adventure in modern culture

You may remember the word dissent. On the other hand, you may be young. In the latter case, you will know the meaning of that word. dissent, *but you will not recall the time* when it carried a capital D and spoke its name out of proscenium arches, television and cinema screens, bookshelves and rock'n'roll catalogues. What has our culture come to, that it no longer harbours Dissent?

John Major thinks himself unlucky to be so pilloried and unpopular. He should try being called Macmillan, or Wilson, or dear Jim Callaghan. Then he would know what unlucky is.

Unlucky for a politician is lucky for the rest of us (of whatever political shade). Unlucky, for a politician, is to be at the centre of the circle when the circumference is in revolt, up in arms, giving you a hard time. The circumference is, or was, the culture. It was not the No Turning Back group.

And the culture Dissented. *There may have been a main*stream that tended to be safe and commercial, but it was fed by tributaries that were anything but. These were the source of the errant and the dangerous and they leached into the mainstream, from time to time dominating it.

Now the culture assents: the mainstream is the only stream. The tributaries are reduced to a trickle. They lack sufficient power to invade the mainstream and the mainstream wilfully lacks the tidal pull that once drew in the eddies of dissent.

The result is a culture gone to blandness. A culture in which a new *Look Back in Anger*, a new *Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner* — even a new *J'Accuse* — exists, if at all, in isolated backwaters.

West End theatre, literature, books . . . these are now wastelands of assent. The West End, specifically, even embraces Majorism with a back-to-basics policy: *Carousel, Jane Eyre, An Inspector Calls, Relative Values.* These we have loved, but are old flames all the theatre can fix us up with? What happened to a night out with a bright, irreverent, young thing?

Books? Please, don't even mention books. The 1993 hardback fiction Top Ten includes a Jeffrey Archer, a Jilly Cooper, two Sue Townsends (grant an amused dissent mark here for *The Queen and I*), Dick Francis, John le Carré, Susan Hill: some lovely people, some fine writing, but, well, nothing you would want to tear apart in a rage.

The real oddity of this age of assent is that it has all the components of the very opposite. It has a second-rate Government, an invisible Opposition; it has a dreadful recession; it has politicians who are very nearly out of control; it has unemployment; it has so much homelessness that the homeless have their own newspaper.

And faced with all this the culture, a.k.a. entertainment, gives us . . . *Spitting Image*, a programme of embarrassing awfulness now almost entirely given over to fourth-form smut. It gives us . . . right-on alternative comedians, such as Paul Merton (a genius), selling soap on television. Imagine, if you can, Tony Hancock doing that. And the culture brings . . . the dismal *Aspects of Love* back to the West End for a second run.

Part of the trouble is complacency. A.N. Wilson was on *Start the Week* the other day, admitting, in so many words, that English books (he was harsh to include his own) had become unchallenging. That, he said, is what publishers want, and he is right. They publish 70,000 books a year, an absurd number. There is no way proper critical functions can be applied to such a huge output, so they publish big-name safe bets and fodder.

Both categories, with honourable exceptions, have common denominators: sex, or violence, or sex and violence. These now masquerade as dissent. The F word, or the quivering rear end in midhump, are the new shock troops of culture. Provocation has come to mean foreplay. Osborne, Sillitoe, Orton et al may have shocked but their shock tactics had a purpose. They made you think.

Today's pretenders make you squirm. Now you switch off the television or leave the theatre feeling voyeuristic if you are feeling anything beyond indifference. So desperate has West End theatre become, so devoid of inspiration, that it turns to *Hair*, the least significant of Sixties' sirens, and deservedly gets its fingers burnt.

Oddly, television is not quite as guilty as the rest of the culture, though it would have the best excuse. Faced with the Thatcherite lunacy of commercial franchises bought from the Treasury (the supreme act of cultural prostitution) ITV has turned into a cultural joke. Whereas Thames made proper programmes, Carlton now makes pap. While all about were gazing upward and shaking their fists as whirling satellites threatened cultural catastrophe (they said), the real enemy turned out to reside in HM Treasury.

Nonetheless, the BBC and Channel 4 now carry the torch for all that is left of cultural dissent. From serious investigation to humorous balloon-pricking, from *Cutting Edge* to *Have I Got News For You*, press buttons 1, 2 and 4 for the only surviving examples of make-you-think mass audience culture.

This is not enough. No wonder the present generation of 20-year-olds is largely of the political right and seemingly only marches if the batonmaster is a fascist. The culture has let down radicalism and, with politics discredited and inert, that is a dangerous state of affairs.

EXHIBITIONS

Visions from the human melting pot

The work of the Argentine painter Xul Solar is tiny in size but epic in scale, **John Russell Taylor** says

The Argentine painter Xul Solar clearly had some seminal experiences in the cinemas of his young manhood, though born too early to have been, like his compatriot Manuel Puig, "betrayed by Rita Hayworth". How else to explain some of the more extraordinary inventions among "The Architectures", the show at the Courtauld Institute Galleries which effectively introduces this towering figure of the Argentine avant-garde to Britain?

Xul Solar's brands of visionary architecture had a certain basis in practicality since he did study engineering and architecture for a year or two in Buenos Aires before working his passage to Europe on a cargo boat in 1912, when he was 24. He originally intended to go to Hong Kong; his art might have been very different had he ever arrived.

Instead he jumped ship in London, and made his way almost immediately to Paris, where he lived, with intervals in his mother's home town near Genoa, until 1924. (In a typical Argentine mix his mother was Italian and his father Latvian.)

While in Paris he began painting seriously and had his first exhibition in Milan in 1920, where his work was shown alongside that of the sculptor Arturo Martini, shown in London at the Accademia Italiana two years ago. The earliest "Architectures" of the show date from about this time, and are very wild and woolly.

Like all of his works on paper they are tiny in size, but vast in scale. Organically shaped, with more than a hint of Gaudí, these imaginary buildings hover between vision and nightmare. In the early Twenties Xul travelled to Germany, and was clearly aware of Bruno Taut and his utopian architectural projects (we know that Xul read German and owned the theoretical writings of Kandinsky early on).

Even in these European drawings there is still something distinctly Latin American, some detail which refers clearly to pre-Columbian art. And when Xul returns to Buenos Aires in 1924, this element becomes much more prominent. He has already evolved his own style, able to absorb a touch of Klee, a passing reference to de Chirico, and yet remain entirely personal.

His imaginary buildings become less expressionistic, more deco, as the decade progresses, and he begins to be fascinated by the tacky cardboard cinemas of the Argentine provinces. He also becomes absorbed in language; Jorge Luis Borges was his closest friend, and Xul spent some time evolving a synthetic Latin-American language called Neo-Criollo, sometimes constructing his buildings from words in it.

The final phase, between 1945 and his death in 1963, was rather more down-to-earth, though it does not look it. Many of the buildings were designed as possible cheap housing for the poor and deprived of the Delta.

Why, he thought, should they not have colour and fantasy in their lives, when it was actually no more expensive than grim functionalism. Why, indeed, his work seems to say, should not we all?

● *Courtauld Institute Galleries, Somerset House, Strand, WC2. (071-873 2526). Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun, 2-6pm, until February 27. Admission (includes permanent collection) £3, concessions £1.50*



Street scene: Dos Ruas, a 1922 watercolour on paper by Xul Solar, the Argentine artist

New lessons from a Lerner

NEW YORK THEATRE: The latest Broadway revival of *My Fair Lady*

Lean rather than lavish is the look of Howard Davies's first musical staging, the Broadway revival of *My Fair Lady* at the Virginia Theater. Davies's attempt to take a fresh look at a classic, as he did last year at *Pygmalion*, turns out to be a classic struggle between preservationists and innovators.

Davies's vision is evident from first sight of the drop-curtain for Lerner and Loewe's overture: Eliza's and Higgins's hats float Magritte-like in a cloudy blue sky. In the Ascot scene, Cecil Beaton's elegant blacks and whites are not only replaced by a rainbow of costumes, but nine chorus members look down on the action from swings.

Higgins's study is equal parts Victorian clutter and Frankenstein laboratory. In such surroundings, Higgins's experiment in social engineering has a diabolical edge.

Davies's production, with a Higgins (Richard Chamberlain) and Eliza (Melissa Errico) who are more convincing in combat than at armistice, only suggests the possibility of fully delineating the battle lines drawn in Shaw's play.



Richard Chamberlain (Higgins) has a lesson for Melissa Errico (Eliza) in *My Fair Lady*

Davies fought a running battle with the executor of Alan Jay Lerner's estate, who championed Lerner's romanticised vision as realised in the original production by director Moss Hart. The schizophrenic quality of the result is neither as captivating as a first-class traditional revival nor as arresting or infuriating as a full deconstruction might be, but there are charms and surprises enough. Chief among the former are Chamberlain's Higgins, with the actor's matinee-idol charisma and a strong baritone buoying his spoken-sung songs, and the unflappable Pickering of Paxton Whitehead.

Melissa Errico has a lovely singing voice but little stage presence, and she is undermined by Davies's innovation of having Eliza voice "h's" so forcefully that she reassembles a whale spraying water through its snout. Julian Holloway is pleasant as Doolittle.

Tommy Tune was brought in to spiff up Donald Saddler's choreography and, though uncredited, is obvious in every production tankard-clink in the "Little Bit of Luck" routine. Aside from interpretation battles, the revival suffers somewhat from being designed for a long tour before Broadway — the sets are sparse and a bit worn. Still, the production is engaging, and Davies's innovations suggest that he ought to be given free rein.

HOLLY HILL

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Saturday 8 Jan 7.30 pm — THE NASH ENSEMBLE, YVONNE KENNY soprano. Leipzig Gewandhaus 250th Anniversary Series V. Weber: Piano Quartet in D flat; Mendelssohn: Six Songs; Rihm's Concerto: Fetzen (a-casino); Rossini: Songs from Soirées Musicales; Beethoven: Septet in E flat Op.20. £12, £10, £8, £6 *NCS*

Sunday 9 Jan 11.30 am — DMITRI ALEXEEV piano. Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Scriabin: Sonata No.3 Op.23

NB: starting time — Chopin: Polonaise-Fantaisie Op.61; 5 Mazurkas; Polonaise in A flat Op.53 including programme and coffee/sherry/tea

Sunday 9 Jan 4.00 pm — NIKITO LAURSALA piano. Beethoven: Sonata Op.31 No.3. Schubert/Liszt: Müller Lieder. Bach: Goldberg Variations BWV988 £10, £8, £6, £4

NB: starting time — *Anglo-European Arts*

Monday 10 Jan 7.30 pm — HIROMI OKUDA piano. Bartók: 6 Dances in Bulgarian Rhythm (from Mikrokosmos); Improvisations on Hungarian Peasant Songs Op.20; Beethoven: Sonata in A Op.101; E Bacewicz: 4 pieces; Chopin: 24 Préludes Op.28. £11, £9, £7, £5 *Anglo-European Arts*

Tuesday 11 Jan 7.30 pm — CARMINA STRING QUARTET, ELVYR TAN timpani, JULIANE BANSE soprano, HASH ENSEMBLE, Leipzig Gewandhaus Series VII. Dedicated to Mendelssohn Foundation. Beethoven: 'ta' mit Quartet Op.18,1; Cherubini: In F minor Scraps with pieces; Songs without words Op.67; String Quartet Op.80. £14, £12, £9, £8 *NCS*

Wednesday 12 Jan 7.30 pm — DUO TAL & GROETHUYSEN piano duet. Master Concert Courses: Sonata in C minor Op.10. Schubert: Fantasia in F minor D940; Brahms: 16 Waltzes Op.39; Mendelssohn: Piano Trio in C minor Op.66 (version for 1 piano four hands). £10, £9, £8, £4 *Jane Gray*

Thursday 13 Jan 7.30 pm — INTERNATIONAL SONGMAKERS AT WIGMORE HALL. JULIANE BANSE soprano, ROHAN TAHEKIL baritone. GRAHAM JOHNSON piano. Schubert Programme - devised by Graham Johnson. ALL SEATS SOLD (returns only) *Holt*

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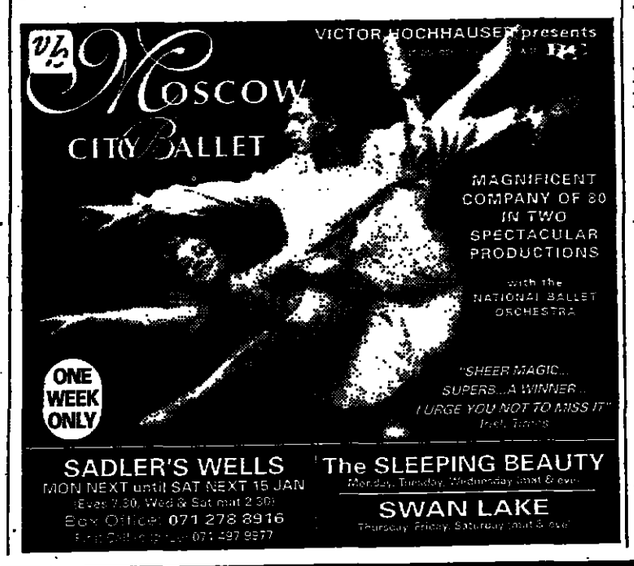
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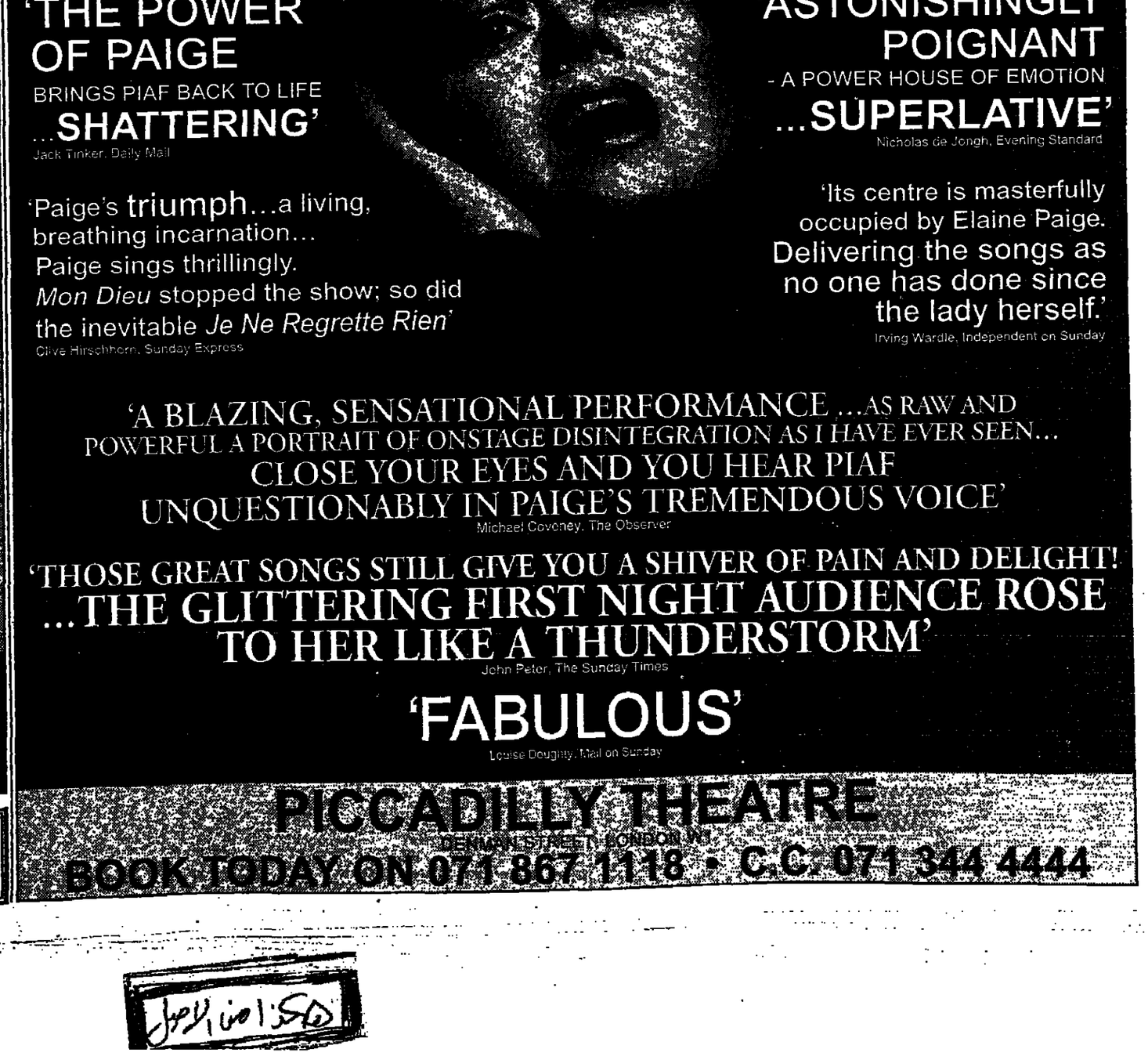
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ENTERTAINMENTS
Also appears on Page 13



Low couture reaches a new high in my wardrobe

FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

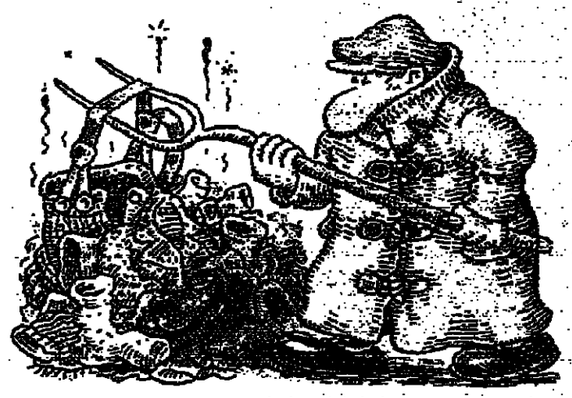
A Christmas present that is not worth discussing by the time the Twelve Days are over was probably not worth receiving in the first place, so I make no apology for a delayed account of one of the most precious gifts I have ever received.

Clothes have always been a bit of a problem for me, especially working clothes. I need to feel warm and comfortable; protected, too, but free to allow the weather's cooling breezes to chill my fevered frame if I happen to be doing hard labour. It is a lot to ask of a garment. In fact, it is so much to ask that I have not come across one that fits the entire bill. And so I have what is known in the family as a "trouser basket", from which I produce all manner of clothes with the flourish of a magician drawing rabbits from a hat.



I have just been to turn it over (as one might a compost heap) and found garments to suit every farming operation. There is a pair of heavy cords, which are versatile but not as all-embracing as the pair of even heavier cords which need stout braces to keep them up lest they crash to my ankles in mid-furrow. These massive trousers are cut high across the small of the back, and thickly lined to keep out any blast of chilly air. That is why I keep the lighter cords for when the days are mild; I sweat less in them.

This all assumes that it has not been raining and there is no R in the month. In the rainier of the R months, the sheep are likely to be in the yard. At feeding-time it is impossible to keep one's legs remotely dry when the ewes, sodden like sponges after an overnight downpour, rub against you in anticipation of food. If I wore the very heavy, or even the moderately heavy cords they would be soggy until lunchtime, so I have a pair of very light, synthetic trousers of the most miserable grey, which can go from drenched to dry in a matter of minutes before the stove. That is three pairs of trousers so far. In addition, I have cleaner trousers for sitting around the house, and another pair to wear if I have to pop into town, as well as a Best Pair if I want to kid anyone that I am a farmer of some substance. That is my repertoire of trousers, which would be bearable were I not paranoid about not being able to lay hands on the pair I want and so carry a spare pair of each. You begin to picture the trouser basket.

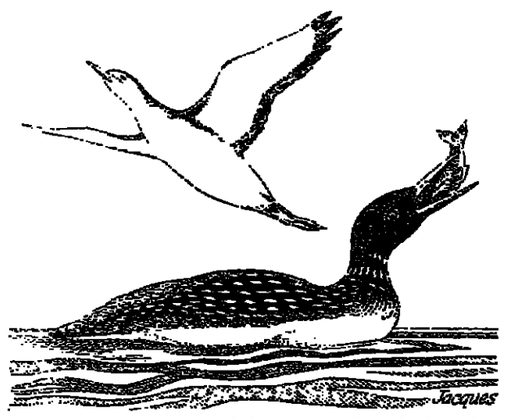


That brings me to the jackets. I have a much-loved tweed one, with thick lining and pockets deep enough to hold a packet of sandwiches, string and a knife; a grubby waxed jacket that looks as though a herd of cows have calved on it, but which is vital to my accounting system because the tickets from all the auctions I have been to in the last three years are still in its pockets; and my most recent acquisition — a cosy, garment from New Zealand which, I'm told, all the smart Kiwi farmers wear. It is called a "Swanni" and grown men are reputed to hang on to them for years, like old teddy bears. Mine is dark brown, and you put it on over your head, like a shirt that does not unbutton; it has a hood and is cut with no waist so that if I were to tie a length of cord around my middriff I could pass for Friar Tuck.

I thought my extensive wardrobe was complete, but Santa had other ideas. On Christmas Eve, we went across to Dilly's to wish the old boy a merry Christmas. We sang a verse of a carol, hammered on the door and loaded him with mince pies and a bottle of rum, and were just about to leave when he called, "Hang on, I've got something for yer." He went upstairs and returned laden with the most massive duffel coat I have seen. It was clearly of some age and might well have been worn by Jack Hawkins in *The Cruel Sea*, were it not that as I got closer to it the tang was less of salt than of stale milking parlour. No matter, it was in fine condition and probably made of far better cloth than a similar garment today. There is a moth-hole or two, but none sufficiently large to admit a gale of wind, and from the moment I slipped my arms into the fusty-smelling cloth I knew that this was it. At last my trouser basket would have a jewel in its crown.

Lambing is about to start, and as I leave the warmth of the house for the farmyard I shall don it with the solemnity with which a monarch would receive the coronation robes, for this garment is worthy of no less respect. Thank your Dilly, thank you Santa.

Feather report



The great northern diver is known as a loon in America

Lonely cries, loony tunes

Divers are primitive-looking birds — and primitive-sounding birds, too. They are what the Americans call loons, and their weird howls have come echoing across picturesque Canadian lakes in quite a few Hollywood films.

The common loon of America is the bird known to us as the great northern diver, which does not actually breed in this country. We have small numbers of red-throated divers and black-throated divers nesting on lochs and lochans in the wild and boggy parts of Scotland, and they too have wailing cries like a child in pain.

Just now there are plenty of divers of all three species wintering around the coasts of Britain. The great northern divers are commonest in the north and west, some of them coming from Greenland and some probably from Canada. They are the largest of the three, with a slinky-looking body lying low on the water, a thick neck, an angular forehead and a fearsome dagger of a bill.

In May you can see them off the Hebrides in brilliant, spangled summer plumage, but now they are dull brown above and silvery below. They usually stay far out at sea, diving for fish, and moving very fast under the water; but they will follow a shoal of herring closer inshore.

In the choppy water it is often difficult to see them, let alone make out which species they are. But the red-throated divers that are commonest along the east coast feed closer in, diving for flatfish and crustaceans in the bays, and they are fairly distinctive if you get a reasonable view. They are comparatively light, small birds, with a speckled brown back and a noticeably up-tilted bill.

As for the black-throated diver, that is the bird in the middle in terms of size, and the hardest to be sure of, although it has a much darker brown back than the other two species.

Birds of all three species are occasionally found on inland waters, and a black-throated diver spent several weeks at the end of last year on a park lake at Stevenage, in Hertfordshire.

It is well worth following the divers back to Scotland when spring comes. The red-throated live up to their name, with a brilliant scarlet patch on the front of their pearly-grey necks. The black-throated are even more striking, with an exquisite pattern of black lines at the side of their throats. Their cries quickly cease to alarm, and take on a wild beauty for the watcher.

The black-throated divers stay on the larger lochs, nesting on the islets. The red-throated divers can be found on quite small, peaty pools, and often fly down to the sea to fish. As they skim over the heather, wings beating fast, they make another cry, a strange goose-like barking, which is one of the most haunting of all the cries of the lonely places.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — Listen out for the first mistle thrush singing as the days get longer. Twitchers — Serin, Ramsgate, Kent; black scoter picked up at Blackpool Lancashire; red-breasted goose, Wallasea Island, Essex. Details from Birdline, 0891 700222. Calls cost 36p a minute cheap rate, 45p at all other times.*

Wildlife gets a shot in the arm

Shooting organisations have agreed voluntary guidelines with the Government to reduce poisoning by lead shot. **Nick Nuttall** reports

Lead shot is considered the ideal pellet for finely built, lightweight British shotguns, but it is a material linked with the poisoning of wildfowl and some birds of prey. So the good news is that it should have all but disappeared from wetland areas by autumn 1997.

Shooting organisations, conservationists and the Government's nature advisers have confirmed that all 12-bore weapons, the most popular size for shooting wildfowl, should fire only unleaded pellets in four years' time.

Huntsmen who use rarer, larger-bore guns, such as 10 and 8-bores, or smaller ones, such as 20-bore weapons, will be exempt until suitable cartridges can be developed. But by 2000 these too should be subject to a lead shot ban.

The new agreement lays down the areas in which the ban will operate. They include estuaries, salt marshes, lakes, reservoirs, foreshores, gravel pits, ponds, rivers, marshes and seasonally flooded land, including water meadows. An exclusion zone around these areas will also operate, given that lead shot can travel up to 300 metres when fired. Farmers indulging in a spot of rough shooting on dry land will be exempt.

The phasing-out, which will begin in September 1995, will be voluntary. However, John Holmes, of the vertebrate ecology and conservation branch of the the Joint Nature Conservation Committee in Peterborough, the Government's nature conservation advisers, warns that legal powers will be sought if hunters flout the agreement. He says: "We want to take the shooters and everyone involved with us."

The move to ban lead shot follows two years of talks between a wide range of organisations such as conservationists, officials at the environment department and shooting bodies. They have been in discussions since a meeting organised by the International Wildfowl and Wetlands Bureau, in Brussels in 1991.

It was called following mounting evidence that many species of wetland and wading birds can be poisoned by lead shot, after mistaking it for grit used to aid food digestion. The lead shot, an estimated 160 tons of which is discarded in Britain and more than 4,000 tons in the European countryside annually, causes paralysis and a lingering death.

The dangers were highlighted by a case earlier in 1993 when 27 whooper swans at a pond near Jedburgh in the Borders died as a result of lead poisoning. David Rollo, a veterinary surgeon based at Berwick, found that some of the birds were carrying between 56 and 58 lead pellets in their gizzards. Lead levels in the birds' livers ranged up to 250 parts per billion, or nearly ten times a toxic dose.

Birds of prey which feed on wildfowl can also suffer. Mr Holmes says: "Positive evidence for this has come from marsh harriers in the Camargue. Lead levels here were consistent with levels found to poison bald eagles in the United States."

Environmentalists, mindful that the Netherlands and Denmark swiftly put a lead shot ban in place, have been concerned at Britain's slower progress. But John Harradine, head of research at the British Association for Shooting and Conservation, near Wrexham, Clwyd, believes the timetable is realistic, and takes into account special circumstances.

Unlike in continental Europe, many British shooters have a tradition of using finely made but less robust weapons. The main alternative to lead shot is steel or soft iron. But conventional cartridges housing such metal pellets can damage the barrels of many British guns and create a potentially hazardous build-up of pressure.

Dr Harradine says the domestic ammunition industry has needed time to develop new cartridges that protect the gun and control the burning times. There has been concern that steel shot cartridges could also be less effective than traditional lead shot, causing more birds to be wounded rather than killed. The new shot cartridges need to be made in such a way as to ensure "they do not solve one problem only to create new ones," says Dr Harradine.

Ammunition makers are confident that they will have solved these issues and have the necessary manufacturing technology in place to meet demand at a cost effective price.

Stephen Dales, managing director of Gamebore Cartridge Company in Hull, one of the companies developing the new ammunition, says the solution is a wad or plastic cup installed in the cartridge which envelopes the steel shot. He says: "It's a bit like a bucket with the shot inside. The cup has slits down the side. As it emerges from the barrel, wind resistance takes over and the plastic peels back like the petals of a flower, releasing the steel shot."

Bismuth and tungsten have also been tested but the costs of the cartridges are high, and making the shot is a highly specialised process.

Mr Dales says that companies have also looked at coating lead pellets with a non-toxic material. He says: "Unfortunately the gizzard of a wildfowl bird is quite harsh as it is full of grit. So whatever coating is put on would be worn away."

JOHN GARRETT/CAMERA PRESS



By the turn of the century hunters may be barred from using lead shot, which can kill in more ways than one

PARIS TRIANGLE Est. 1982

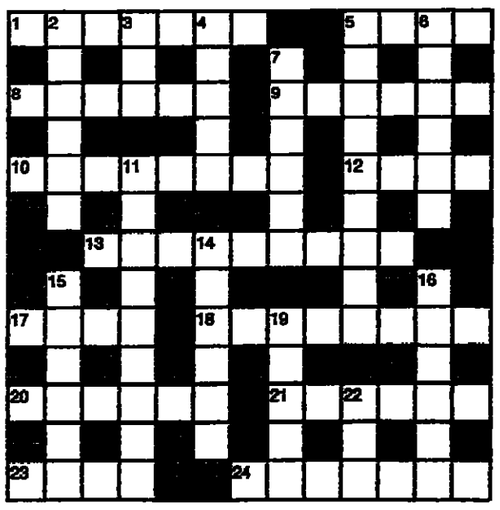
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1 Organisation to help the needy (7)
5 Author of *Prisoner of Zenda* (4)
8 Thrifty (6)
9 — ergo sum (Descartes) (6)
10 By the Julian calendar (3,5)
12 Fibber (4)
13 One supplying items of knowledge (9)
17 Nine days' Queen (4)
18 Flattery (4,4)
20 Foully decomposing (6)
21 Challenge (truth of) (6)
23 S American farm labourer (4)
24 Item of personal property (7)

DOWN
2 Obstruction, temporary fence (6)
3 Mat (3)
4 Box (slang) (5)
5 Mountainous Gaelic area of Scotland (9)
6 Shorthand pioneer (6)
7 Funny person: subject of Munch picture (6)
11 Jewish High Court (9)
14 Legally able to play ball (6)
15 Ruler of England, but not of its waves (6)
16 Negotiate in bazaar (6)
19 Confidence, loyalty (5)
22 Lobster trap (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 56

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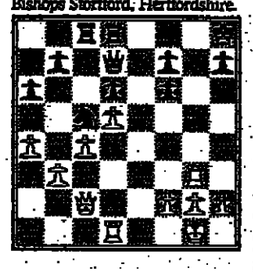
CHESS

By Raymond Keene

Today's position is from the game Tchakiev - Watson, Lloyds Bank, London 1993. White's heavy pieces are lined up against the broken black kingside. Can you spot the killer blow?

Send your answers on a postcard with your name and address to: *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine book. The answer will be published next Saturday. Solution to last Saturday competition: 1 ... Ra1+.

Last week's winners are A R Robbins, Otery St. Mary, Devon; R Gedling, Epsom; R M Simpson, Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire.



WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ABLUDE
a. To spoil sport
b. To wash
c. To differ

BLUEISM
a. Feminine learning
b. Athletic heartiness
c. Congenitally feeling the cold

VERVET
a. Ribbed velvet
b. A troubador's lyric metre
c. A monkey

WHILLYWHA
a. A cold mountain wind
b. An Amerindian sledge
c. A wheedling person

Answers on page 13